Mac FORMAT ISSUE 218 March 2010

> Never lose a file again! The complete guide to backing up and restoring your Mac > New effects in Keynote > Online storage group test > Change speed in iMovie Printed in the UK

All your Apple needs

Mac FORMAT

>Mac >iPod >iPhone
>Issue 218 March 2010

TOP 10 MUST HAVE iPHONE APPS!

The best apps for your iPhone & iPod touch p99

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Learn this great Photoshop tip!

New effects in Keynote

Master Apple's presentation app

Speed up in iMovie

How to alter the speed of a clip

THE LATEST KIT REVIEWED

- FinePix REAL 3D W1
- RealMac Socialite
- Laptop bags roundup

AND MUCH MORE!

Never lose a file again!

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO BACKING UP AND RESTORING YOUR MAC

- Time Machine tips and tricks
- Back up over your network
- Protect your precious pics

MacBook Pro

HOW-TO GUIDES

All-new moves

Enhance your Magic Mouse

Go beyond OS X

Run other systems on a Mac

INTERVIEW

Macs on location

We meet Mark Carwardine

DISC INSIDE

- Fresh 1.2.2 Manage your recently opened files
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to MacFormat, the UK's No. 1 Mac magazine

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Subscribe to *MacFormat* to **save 35%** on the newsstand price, and get an Apress Snow Leopard manual as well. **Turn to page 28 now!**

By the time you read this, Apple's planned 27 January press event in San Francisco will have been done, dusted and debated to death. The new 'iProduct', whatever it is, will have been announced and might even be on sale. Some sort of tablet device is the odds-on favourite, but it's pointless me sitting here on deadline day and speculating about what it might be. Instead, just check out our website at **www.macformat.co.uk** to get the latest news about what it was!

This month we're announcing two exciting new digital advancements here at *MacFormat*. We're now offering our existing subscribers the entire issue of *MacFormat* as a PDF download, at **www.macformat.co.uk/subscriber**, rather than just the selected articles we offered previously. And secondly, if you're a fan of Zinio, the popular technology for reading magazines on your Mac, you can now subscribe to *MacFormat* in a purely electronic way. See **www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk/zinio** for details.

We'll also be offering you the option of subscribing to just the PDF version of *MacFormat* soon, so watch this space. Enjoy this issue and come back for the next on 3 March, when we'll be looking at 40 ways to improve your Mac experience.

Graham Barlow, Editor
graham.barlow@futurenet.com
twitter.com/MacFormat

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Deputy Editor

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Chris gets stuck into Linux on a Mac p24

Ian Osborne
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Software guru

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"You can freeze the action on a particular frame, and turn it into a photo"

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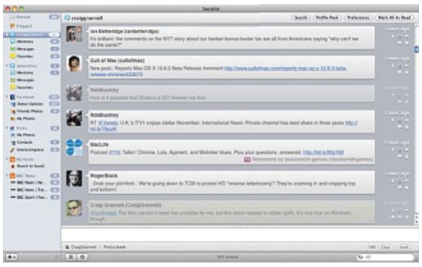

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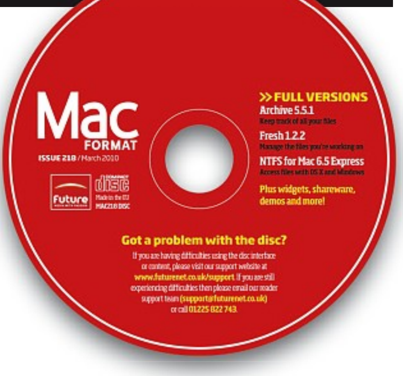
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● NEWS & OPINION ● EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS ● LATEST GADGETS ● READER LETTERS

2010: interesting times for Apple

Expect increasing rivalry as Apple dominates 2010's technology scene

Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer opened up giant US event, CES, with a series of announcements and an attempt with former Apple iPod ally, HP, to steal Apple's thunder as the world looked forward to the much-vaunted tablet device from Cupertino.

Weeks before CES, it emerged Apple had acquired the 'iSlate' trademark; perhaps this led HP and Microsoft to call the HP tablet device (briefly demonstrated by Ballmer) the "HP Slate". This Windows 7 device lacks a keyboard and is touch controlled but it won't ship for months. "We are talking about something as portable as a phone and as powerful as Windows 7," Ballmer said, "perfect for reading, for surfing the web and for entertainment on the go."

The Windows-powered tablet won weak welcome – analyst Michael Gartenberg called it "too large for the pocket, too small to do work on… It's a 'tweener device not optimised for anything," he wrote.

If the partners truly intended to steal Apple's thunder, they failed. Interest in Apple only grew as a result of Microsoft's defensive gesture.

"The elephant in the room of course is Apple," said Endpoint Technologies analyst Roger Kay. "Other manufacturers are scrambling to get things together before it defines the market."

Apple's resurgence pits the company against the biggest names in technology: Nokia, Palm, RIM, even former ally, Google – are all slugging it out as the industry navigates disruptive evolution toward a mobile future.

Days before CES, Google launched the Android-powered, HTC-manufactured Google Nexus One mobile, sold SIM-free

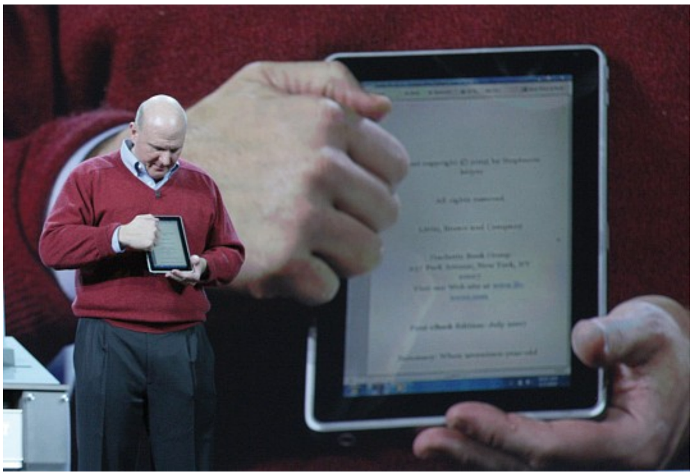


Image courtesy of Microsoft

Microsoft boss Steve Ballmer's attempt to defuse Apple's tablet story (with introduction of the HP Slate) fails at CES 2010.

NEWS IN BRIEF

WWDC 2010 for June?

Apple hasn't confirmed it but bloggers claim the company's booked San Francisco's Moscone Center between June 28 - July 2 for this year's Worldwide Developer's Conference. With Apple rapidly widening its product and services matrix, this year's WWDC should appeal to more developers than ever before. WWDC has become a hotbed for new product and service introductions, this year will be no different.

APPLE IN PICTURES / CES sees iPhone fly by

Getty Images

iPHONE GOES SKY HIGH

Parrot's AR.Drone is a quadricopter controlled by an iPhone or iPod touch and streams video from the craft for in-flight dog fights.

and compatible with most US networks (set for the UK in spring, via Vodafone).

That Google could offer its device unlocked owes a debt to the Apple iPhone, which helped force mobile carriers to loosen their iron grips on device development. Nexus One seems to capably compete with today's iPhone.

The Google versus Apple battle is critical. Increased competition follows August's resignation of Google CEO Eric Schmidt from Apple's board after the Federal Trade Commission began an investigation into whether the companies' close relationship violated antitrust laws. "By introducing a Google-branded phone, Google is leaning closer to Apple by providing hardware, software and services," said Tim Bajarin, president of Creative Strategies.

Apple's move to mobile has attracted fury from Nokia, which has chosen litigation to combat the iPhone threat, filing complaints with the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) and federal court alleging infringement of seven Nokia patents across most Apple products.

Apple denied this in a countersuit in which it accuses Nokia of infringing 13 Apple patents. "Others must compete with us by inventing their own technologies, not just by stealing ours," said Bruce Sewell, Apple's General Counsel.

Nokia is attempting to persuade US federal authorities to ban US imports of iPhones, iPods and some Macs as part of its litigation. As these products are made in China, this would devastate Apple's business in its largest market, the US.

Litigation and increased competition won't distract CEO Steve Jobs from his mission to keep Apple products far ahead of the competition. Work on the next-generation iPhone has been going on for months. Analysts predict a new model by mid-year.

The new iPhone will likely carry a faster processor, 5-megapixel camera, 'n' standard WiFi and – potentially – support multi-tasking. June's WWDC 2010 seems a likely launch point, as this marks the end of Apple's three-year exclusivity deal with AT&T. An iPhone model fit for Verizon's network should follow. ●

APPLE IN NUMBERS

28%

For a smartphone, one-in-four Americans choose iPhone.

> *"Sitting on my monitor now is a model of Ollie, the Twitterrific bluebird"*

Christopher Phin explains why his new companion makes him happy. »

Apple talk

Who's saying what?

Steve Jobs

www.apple.com

"Three billion apps downloaded in less than 18 months? This is like nothing we've ever seen before."

Apple boss gets excited about App Store.

Matt Murphy

www.kpcb.com

"We had no idea that there would be 2 billion downloads by October. Most people within Apple, if you had told them it would be a fifth of that by now, they would have been pretty happy."

iFund manager on App Store explosion.

Mark Moskowitz

www.jpmorgan.com

"Apple's iPhone should benefit [from the App Store] with a developer base seemingly more focused on applications for the iPhone versus other products."

JP Morgan sees the App Store advantage.

Ronan Dunne

www.o2.com

"Where we haven't met our own high standards then there's no question, and we apologise to customers for that fact."

O2 CEO says sorry to London iPhone users hit by network problems.

Have you heard any great Apple quotes? Email us at macformat@futurenet.com

>> IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Development heaven

Christopher Phin

As I've said before, and will, at many points in the future, say again: my favourite thing about the Mac platform is not the hardware, the operating system, or Apple itself. It's the developers.

And not just because they create elegant, usable and useful applications, but because their attitude – their entire world view – is just so phenomenal. It's electrifying, gratifying and plain right.

Two examples prompted this. Sitting on my monitor now (there's a poor-quality iPhone snap at **http://twitpic.com/uhlaw**) is a vinyl model of Ollie, the *Twitterrific* bluebird. It's the mascot and icon of the Iconfactory's *Twitterrific* app for Mac and the iPhone, and the guys decided to make it into a toy. That's the first thing.

The second is a range of illustrations commissioned by Panic, also used on – it's difficult to find the right word – fake, joke, parody, homage software boxes that imagine what it would be like if Panic made Atari games back in the pre-Mac days.

> *"Let's celebrate people who create just for the joy of it and to bring something good into the world…"*

Both companies are selling these things, for sure, but I'd be flabbergasted – and, frankly, dubious – if either expected to or succeeded in making anything more than the corporation equivalent of pocket money from these sidelines.

And yet now, when the economy remains shaky, and when people insist on implying that the iPhone's success comes at the expense of the Mac itself, this is the time when these guys are doing stuff that's fun, quirky and indulgent.

Well hurrah, I say. Let's celebrate people who create not just because their creation will feed them, but just for the joy of creating and bringing something good into the world.

Head on over to **iconfactory.com**, **panic.com** and the site of your own favourite developers, and drop them a line just to say thanks. Or go to **https://store.iconfactory.com** and **www.panic.com/goods** and buy something truly special: the passion of good people, made real.

Christopher Phin is delighted with his newly appointed role as Chief Crisps Taster. A small sacrifice for the people of Britain…

GoodFood
Healthy Recipes
App Store
MacBook Pro

>> APP STORE NEWS

3 billion apps and growing

Setting a scene for App Store success

More than three billion apps have now been downloaded via the App Store, Apple has confirmed.

This landmark number enhances the suggestion App download rates have accelerated far beyond those experienced when the App Store first made apps available in July, 2008. It seems iPhone and iPod touch users are now acquiring applications at rates in excess of 10 million downloads each day.

This achievement enabled Apple CEO, Steve Jobs, to take a slight swipe against the competition, saying in a press statement: "The revolutionary App Store offers iPhone and iPod touch users an experience unlike anything else available on other mobile devices, and we see no signs of the competition catching up anytime soon."

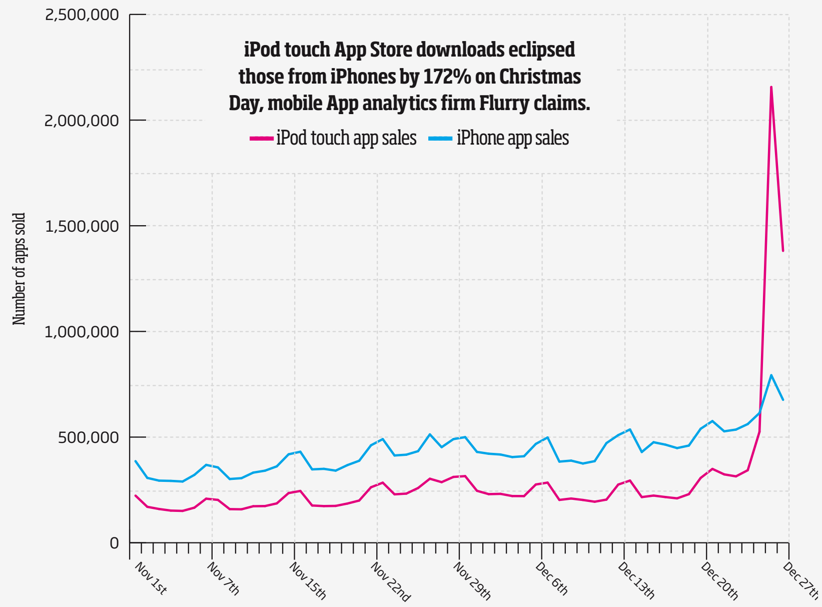
Reading between the lines, recent figures confirm one billion app downloads in 100 days. Apple is currently seeing in excess of ten million App downloads every day. It is also clear that the Christmas season drove strong sales of iPod touch and the iPhone, generating a sharp spike in iTunes Store requests on Christmas Day itself, according to mobile analytics firm, Flurry.

The company's data suggests downloads from iPod touches exceeded those from iPhones by 172% at Christmas, with downloads from third-generation iPod touches up 900% on Christmas Day, compared with the average of previous Fridays in December. Apple sold 22,727,000 iPods during the Christmas quarter of 2008 alongside 4,363,000 iPhones. ●

>> KEY MOMENTS

- **July 11, 2008:** App Store launches
- **July 14, 2008:** 10 million apps downloaded
- **September 9, 2008:** 100 million apps downloaded
- **April 24, 2009:** 1 billion apps downloaded
- **July 14, 2009:** 1.5 billion apps downloaded
- **September 28, 2009:** 2 billion apps downloaded
- **January 5, 2010:** 3 billion apps downloaded

APPLE IN NUMBERS / Christmas cheers



iPod touch App Store downloads eclipsed those from iPhones by 172% on Christmas Day, mobile App analytics firm Flurry claims.

Source data supplied by Flurry

TV SUBSCRIPTION

Apple's very own take on cable TV

Will CBS and Disney join iTunes TV service?

Apple is in advanced discussions with US TV networks, with a view to offering 'all-you-can-eat' subscription deals through iTunes for access to specific shows; a move that pits the company against cable TV firms.

The *Wall Street Journal* tells us broadcasters CBS and Walt Disney Co are considering signing up for Apple's plan to offer TV subscriptions.

People familiar with the proposals say Apple is reported to be offering media companies about $2 to $4 a month per subscriber for a broadcast network, such as CBS or ABC, and about $1 to $2 a month per subscriber for a basic cable network . These payments are, in some cases, higher than those offered by traditional distributors. Apple had initially intended selling ads-free access to shows at a cost of $30 per month.

These plans face opposition in the form of NBC's Hulu, in which other broadcasters are involved. Comcast's purchase of NBC means Apple faces challenges with signing up the US networks.

Piper Jaffray analyst, Gene Munster, predicted Apple's new adventures in broadcasting last summer. He believes the service will launch alongside an updated version of the Apple TV, or its software.

There will be competition in the UK too as the BBC has won approval to develop its own platform. This will offer streaming TV and radio via a set-top box hooked up to your broadband connection. ●

APPLE IN NUMBERS

10%

Apple's slice of the French mobile phone market.

HOT OR NOT?

The latest word from the Apple rumour mill

HOT: 8GB iPhone 3GS?
Rumour-mongers speculate Apple will replace the 8GB iPhone 3G with a similarly sized 3GS model. This makes sense to us as we await a fourth edition iPhone.

HOT: Apple's 3D user future
Patents filings confirm Apple is developing 3D, touch-based user interfaces for future products. Imagine how they could help architects, artists and engineers?

NOT: Tim Cook claims General Motors CEO chair
A report claiming General Motors wants to poach Apple's number two to lead the ailing motor giant sounds unlikely to us.

NOT: Apple plans 10 million tablet sales in year one
We're unconvinced by Google China's ex-president Kai-Fu Lee's claims Apple plans to make 10 million tablets this year.

Apple on TV

The Mac is ready for its close-up

Did you see the MacBook on *Strictly Come Dancing's* sister show, *Strictly Takes Two*, when the musicians behind the dancers' music talked about their work (with a Mac, of course)? Thanks to reader Robert Oliver.

If you've spotted a Mac on television, then email macformat@futurenet.com and tell us all about it!

>> ACROSS THE POND

Media frenzy

Susie Ochs

Something's confusing me, even more than the rules of cricket. (Which I can see, if not comprehend, at my local Irish pub.) Why hasn't Apple released a proper media centre?

The Apple TV is a start, but not nearly enough. Apple's happy to sell you iTunes Store content over the device (but a much smaller selection than the iTunes Store on your Mac), and you can access your own media, YouTube and Flickr. But that's it. The most exciting thing to do with the Apple TV, in fact, is hacking it to run *Boxee*, freeware media-centre software that supports more file types, plug-ins, and far more internet content, including BBC iPlayer, Netflix, Pandora radio and tons more.

Why is Apple lagging in the living room? Microsoft has the robust *Windows Media Center* application for PCs, but on the Mac side, Apple stopped at *Front Row*. And the Apple TV might never see future versions of the *Boxee* software now it's competing with the cheaper, no-hacks-required Boxee Box, recently announced at CES.

> *"Interacting with a media center shouldn't feel like using a computer, and designing such interfaces is Apple's forte"*

People don't want cobbled-together solutions; they want plug-and-play simplicity, especially in the living room. Interacting with a media centre shouldn't feel like using a computer, and designing such interfaces is Apple's forte. But to really succeed, Apple's media centre will need to do more than the Apple TV or *Front Row* can.

Let us watch DVDs and Blu-ray discs, too – a major oversight from the conveniently sized Mac mini and the widescreen, wall-mountable 27-inch iMac, which could work as a media centre itself, no TV required. They could make it expandable for growing media libraries, by supporting external drives to hold more local content, and offering plug-ins (as *Boxee* and *Plex* do) to add extra content sources like Netflix.

But most of all, give us that eye-catching, simple-yet-robust, it-just-works usability that we love about Apple gear to begin with. Oh, and please include a channel of cricket matches. I'll figure it out eventually.

Susie Ochs is the Senior Editor of *Mac|Life* based in San Francisco. She is also a tequila slammer and burrito enthusiast.

>> COMPANY NEWS

Apple's big empire keeps expanding

Key deals suggest ads and streaming music

Streaming music services via iTunes and Apple delivering iPhone-focused ad sales all appear possible following two key Apple acquisitions.

December '09 saw Apple acquire music streaming service, Lala.com, which lets users stream any of 8 million songs free, or buy them at 10 cents a track.

The estimated $80-million acquisition didn't include the rights to extend music streaming beyond Lala. Apple is thought to have wanted to hire in Lala's engineering talent. It's likely Apple will task them with building its own music-streaming service based on iTunes, as the company recognises consumers shifting toward access to music above track ownership.

Apple spokesman Steve Dowling said: "Apple buys smaller technology companies from time to time and we generally do not comment on our purpose or plans."

A Lala statement said: "Our mission continues with the support of Apple. While we do not have answers about the future, we know our choices will be driven by exceeding expectations for a great service."

In a second significant deal reflecting Apple's need to explore new business segments, in January it acquired mobile advertising start-up Quattro Wireless for $275 million. The company has continued trading as normal but confirmed the purchase. Quattro Wireless competes with Admob, which Google itself acquired (for $750 million) before Christmas. Both ads firms are aimed at the fast-growing market to advertise on smartphones, such as the iPhone or Google Android devices. ●

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS

45 million

The number of iPhones set to ship in 2010.

Stockwatch

A look at the world of Apple business with Clem Chambers

Apple's stock price can shoot up on the lead up to the launch of major new products and it looks like the Apple tablet is going to drive the price.

As I write, the price is $214 a share. The normal form would see the price continue rising to some moment before the actual launch when speculators would panic about the impending launch and all the uncertainties that go with it. We would then see a fall in the price – normally a few days before the launch itself. What then follows is a weakening, as predicable stories about launch disappointments follow. After a few weeks, if the product is a success, the share price starts to pick up and then follows on the media reports.

If the tablet is as good as the iPhone it will be a huge success. The consumer market is ready for such a device and Apple's credibility is so high right now even PC enthusiasts will buy it just to have a play.

Clem Chambers is CEO of ADVFN, Europe's leading stocks and shares website.

>> HARDWARE NEWS

Battery hex for mouse

Magic Mouse saps keyboard battery

Mac users employing Apple's Magic Mouse have reported that use of the device has an unexpected side effect; that of reducing the battery life of their accompanying wireless Apple keyboards.

A series of Apple Discussions confirm the problem. "Despite switching to rechargeable batteries and running updates, the problem persists," the report explains, citing some users as being forced to replace their battery as often as every week.

It seems some conflict between the Bluetooth drivers in both products are having the effect of eating up the battery life of Apple wireless keyboards when used in conjunction with a Magic Mouse – but a fix is on its way, reports claim.

"I was blaming Snow Leopard but my new Magic Mouse is in fact the problem," writes one user. "I switched to a Logitech mouse for comparison and my battery life on the keyboard then stabilised."

Apple's own discussions seem to anecdotally confirm the company is more than aware of the issue, which they regard as a Bluetooth driver problem in which the mouse interferes with the keyboard's Bluetooth communication, thereby draining the battery life.

A future software patch for the mouse and keyboard is expected to address this problem, although release of these haven't been officially confirmed. ●

The Magic Mouse might look great but it can be a huge drain.

>> APPLE EVENTS

03 MARCH

MACWORLD EXPO
San Francisco
9-13 Feb 2010
Once an annual pilgrimage for Mac users, it looks like Macworld has lost its bite.

CEBIT
Hannover
2-6 March
Europe's largest technology showcase is a hotbed of technology innovation, shown across several halls.

MACFORMAT
Issue 219
3 March
Set to be a big month for Apple news our team's working hard to bring you the next issue.

FOCUS ON IMAGING
Birmingham, NEC
7-10 March
Europe's major imaging show covers absolutely everything – from the latest in image capture and beyond.

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The Mac mini, iPod touch and Popcorn 4 are all you need for films on the go.
Photography by Joby Sessions

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What a prize bundle! The lucky winner of this month's competition gets a copy of *Roxio Popcorn 4*, a Mac mini featuring a 2.26GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor and a 160GB hard drive, as well as an 8GB iPod touch to view the videos you convert with *Popcorn 4*.

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Popcorn 4 is really easy to use, and can copy and convert unprotected DVDs, as well as process video files you've already got stored on your Mac. Conversions can be paused and resumed, and you can publish to YouTube directly from the application. Five runners-up each get a copy of *Roxio Popcorn 4*.

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What sort of application is Roxio Popcorn 4?

A) A word processor
B) A video-conversion utility
C) A web builder

For more information on Roxio Popcorn 4 and other excellent Roxio products, such as Toast 10 Titanium, go to www.roxio.co.uk.

» HOW TO ENTER

- To enter, text POP, followed by a space then your answer (A, B or C), space, then your name and address to 87474; or enter via our website at **www.macformat.co.uk** and click on the **Competition** link.
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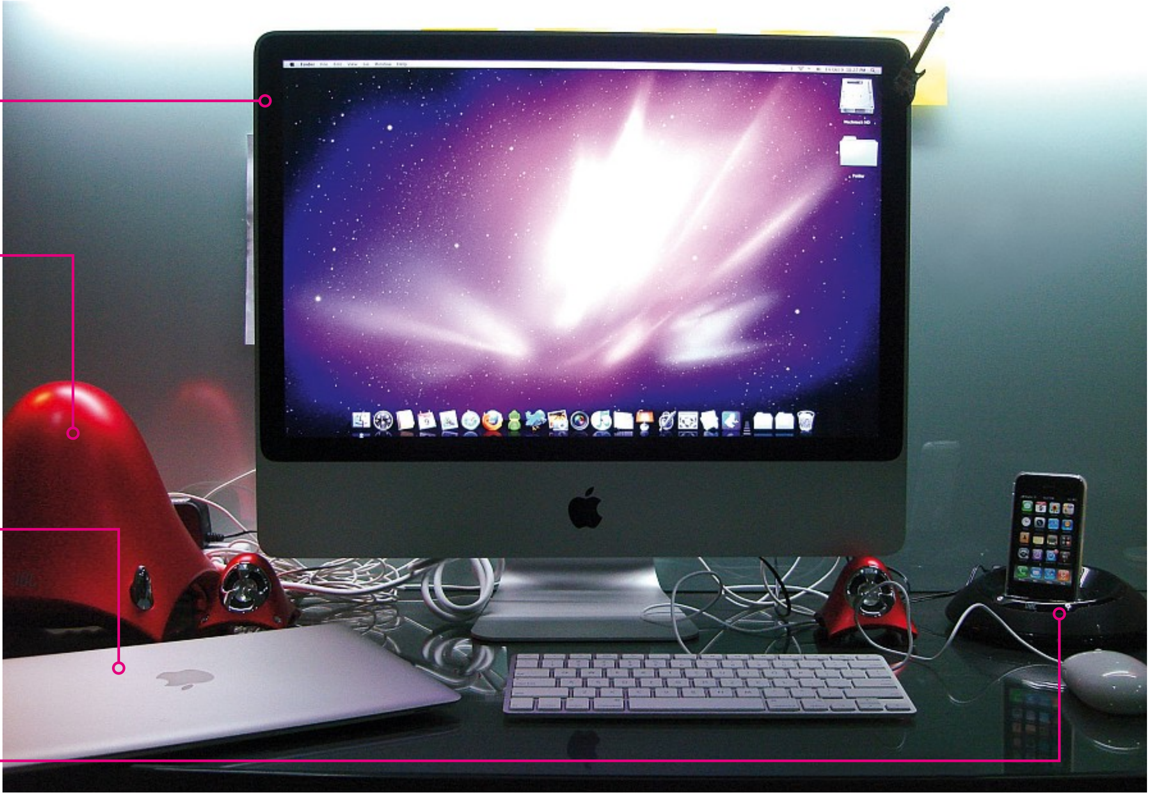
Me&MyMac

MacFormat readers share their beloved Mac setups

>> CONTACT US
Want to share your Mac setup with us? Email a photo of your kit to **christopher.phin@futurenet.com**



iMac 24-inch 2.93GHz
Core 2 Duo is still powerful, even though Core i5 and i7 iMacs get the attention.

JBL Creature II
The iMac's built-in speakers are actually pretty good, but adding an external set gives audio a boost.

MacBook Air 2.13GHz
This light, portable laptop is ideal for schoolwork and preparing presentations.

32GB iPhone 3GS
"I think I'd never switch to another phone brand in my life," Delwyn says - and, we say, fair enough!

>> PROFILE
Name: Delwyn Lim Zhi Jie
Occupation: Student
Been using a Mac for: 2 years
Favourite hardware: iMac 24-inch 2.93GHz
Favourite software: iTunes, Adium

Education buyers love Apple because the package is complete, the integration costs are minimal and the longevity of the hardware is monumental. But students turn to the platform as well. Delwyn, who studies in Singapore got in touch to share his story.

"I mainly use my Mac for my school work and projects," he tells us, "including the everyday reports, presentations and video editing. I also use *GarageBand* to compose my own songs as I play the guitar. I like how *GarageBand* can be used together with my electric guitar, not forgetting how Keynote has transformed me into a Steve Jobs wannabe!

"The Mac is fast, especially with Snow Leopard, and it saves me loads of time when I'm moving from application to application; multi-tasking became much easier and smoother with a Mac and it basically has everything I need and use."

> *"I was influenced by how Keynote could run so smoothly and completely blow PowerPoint away"*

So what made Delwyn get a Mac? "I was influenced by how *Keynote* could run so smoothly and completely blow *PowerPoint* away, and by my friend who has been pestering me to buy a Mac together with him. I started off with a MacBook Pro."

His current favourite Mac product is his MacBook Air. "As I really need a light and portable laptop on-the-go when I go to school, the MacBook Air serves as a secondary but very important computer to me. Being light isn't its sole advantage, however; it still runs faster than my friends' PC laptops even though their specs are higher."

And he loves *Keynote*: "I ditched *PowerPoint* for *Keynote* for good, because *Keynote* provides so many more features and effects, and it is much easier to use than *PowerPoint*. Now my presentations are top-notch, impressing teachers and friends alike, and I can do this all because I have the *Keynote* application."

Like any good Apple fan, though, he's not content even with his current generous setup. "I would really like to add a 2TB Time Capsule into the mix, so that I can back up both my iMacs and MacBook Air, as well as the other PCs in my house. Now I use an external hard disk. Everything will be much easier when it goes wireless; I could then share files and grab files wirelessly through Time Capsule." ●

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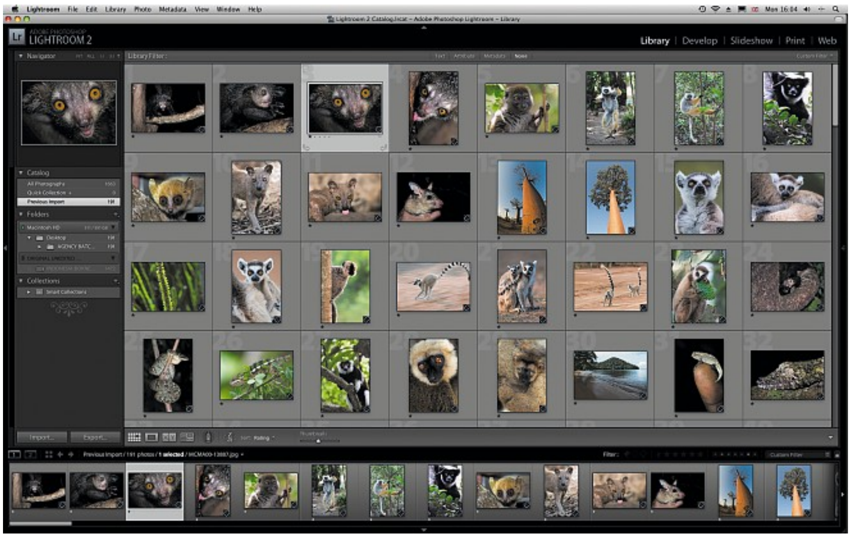
LIGHTROOM 2
Library | Develop | Slideshow | Print | Web

I use my Mac for writing and photography

LEFT TOP: 2009's Last Chance to See with Stephen Fry saw Mark return to places he'd visited 20 years ago with Douglas Adams.

LEFT BOTTOM: On poaching patrol, also, just one of the stunning creatures Mark has captured on film.

ABOVE: Lightroom, for Mark, is "a simple, way of processing RAW files, keeping tabs on pictures, and doing comparisons".

Craig Grannell meets zoologist, writer, photographer and broadcaster Mark Carwardine

»PROFILE

Name: Mark Carwardine
Location: Bristol
Occupation: Zoologist, writer, photographer, radio and TV broadcaster
System(s): Two 27" iMacs, MacBook Pro, MacBook G4
Web: www.markcarwardine.com

MacFormat: What are your Macs of choice?
Mark Carwardine Two 27" iMacs and a MacBook Pro for when I'm travelling. One iMac's for photography. It's calibrated, and photos are now such big files that I need lots of space for storage and manipulation. The other iMac's used for writing.

MF: What apps do you use?
MC: I've fallen in love with *MacSpeech Dictate*. I do a lot of writing, and it gives me a break from tapping away on the keyboard. I like talking while I'm thinking, rather than writing. For photo work, I use *Lightroom*.

MF: How does technology impact on conservation?
MC: It's easy to send and receive information, so conservation groups in the field can react quickly. When doing *Last Chance to See* with Douglas Adams, there was no email or mobile phones – I set everything up by long-distance calls and letters. We'd arrive and no-one would be there! But technology can impact negatively – poaching gangs use it to keep tabs on anti-poaching units.

MF: How did you find 2009's *Last Chance to See* revisits?
MC: Of eight endangered animals Douglas and I picked, two are extinct. And when we travelled down the coast of Madagascar, it was thick jungle, but now there are just tiny pockets of protected areas. The positive was individuals devoted to protecting an endangered animal or location, risking their lives on a day-to-day basis.

MF: What were your standout photographic subjects?
MC: Underwater ones – diving's a passion of mine and underwater photography is challenging, due to low visibility. This is where digital cameras really come into their own – instead of wondering if your 36 shots have come out, you shoot endless pictures on a dive, check the camera, adjust as you go, and make everything perfect.

MF: Do you edit your images?
MC: I'm a strong advocate of not manipulating. I make adjustments to colour and contrast, remove dust spots, and nothing else. Some photographers remove animals from pictures or transpose heads, but I feel nature photography should represent what you're seeing and be true to it. ●

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Gadgets

The hottest kit, coming soon.
Here's what Apple is up against

▶ L5 Technology L5 remote

$50 (about £32) www.L5remote.com

What is it? A dongle and free app that will turn your iPhone into a universal remote controller. It can control thousands of devices, including TVs, cable boxes, stereos, DVD players, ceiling fans, air conditioners and more. You can even customise the interface.

When's it due? It was released in January.

Why are we excited? Universal remotes are useful devices, especially when programmed to control your entire home theatre at once. Yet they're also extremely expensive. If the L5 works as well as a dedicated device, it's a bargain.

L5
Living Room
2:38
TV
INPUT
MUTE
VOL
DVD

11:33
Monday, October 13
slide to unlock

▶ WikiReader

$99 (£62) thewikireader.com

What is it? Navigate Wikipedia using the device's 3.5-inch monochrome touchscreen. No internet connection is required. It can be updated by downloading a new data file and transferring it to a MicroSD card.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? It's perfect for settling arguments down the pub… or winning the quiz. We wished it used an e-ink screen instead of an LCD, though.

Toyo Ito
Toyo Ito (伊東豊雄, Itō Toyo'o; 1941-) is a Japanese architect known for creating extreme conceptual architecture, in which he seeks to meld the physical and virtual "worlds". He is a leading exponent of architecture that addresses issues of the contemporary notion of a "simulated" city, considered "one of the world's most innovative and influential architects" (Designboom)
WikiReader
search
history
random

▲ WallDock

$25 (£16)

www.tinyurl.com/yg6jxqu

What is it? A plug-in device that turns any electrical wall socket into a charging dock for your iPod or iPhone. It's portable, convenient and unencumbered by cables and clutter.

When's it due? Out now in the States.

Why are we excited? It's a great idea, although it's a shame that it's only available in the US right now. We hope they release a three-pin UK version, so we Brits can benefit too.

Press User to Login
WEATHER
London, United Kingdom
14°C
Mostly Cloudy
Forecast:
Tue Rain High: 15°C Low: 8°C
Wed Chance of Rain High: 13°C Low: 7°C
Web TV
HOME MEDIA
BBC iPlayer
ONYX

◀ Cello iViewer

From £499 **www.celloelectronics.com**

What is it? This connects to your wireless network through Ethernet or a WiFi dongle. You can then tune into iPlayer as well as terrestrial TV broadcasts. Other internet television services are available.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? The iPlayer service gave us the chance to watch last week's BBC TV shows on our computers. Now Cello iViewer gives us the chance to watch the iPlayer service on our TV. What goes around, comes around.

▼ harman/kardon GLA-55 speakers

£750 **www.harmankardon.com**

What is it? At first glance you may be forgiven for thinking these are elaborate sculptures, but on closer inspection you'll see that they're actually a pair of computer speakers.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? Once exclusive to Apple stores, the GLA-55s are now on general release. They're gorgeous to look at, and would look stunning next to any desktop or notebook Mac. They're optimised for use with computers, and you have an optional woofer.

▲ Lenovo ideaPad U1

£TBA **www.lenovo.com**

What is it? This is no ordinary notebook; the screen section can be removed from the lid to give you a neat multi-touch tablet computer. In its notebook form it runs Windows 7 on an Intel Core 2 Duo SU processor, and with the keyboard discarded, the tablet PC uses a custom version of Linux on a Qualcomm ARM Snapdragon processor.

When's it due? In the UK, second half of 2010.

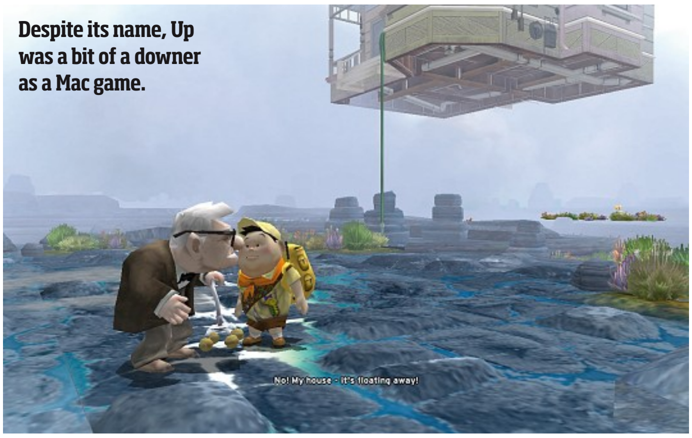
Why are we excited? We're cherishing the thought of a MacBook designed along these lines, running Snow Leopard on the notebook and a modified version of iPhone OS when in tablet form. How about it, Mr Jobs?

Feedback

>> CONTACT US
Whatever your Mac-related cares, concerns or calamities are, let us know about them by contacting us on the following email address:
macformat@futurenet.com

Let us know what you think about your Mac, MacFormat and everything Apple

Down about Up


Despite its name, Up was a bit of a downer as a Mac game.

After reading your review of the THQ game of *Up* I have to say I'm ever so slightly disappointed. Don't get me wrong, I agree with many of the points made in the review – it is clunky, it is a bit same-old same-old and the visuals are a bit, well, dodgy, to put it bluntly. But that's not the point. It does remind me of when I first started using a Mac, a long, long time ago, and I came across a little program called *Rainbox* on disc of a magazine (could have been *MacFormat!*). Boy was it rubbish. It did very little, the interaction was odd – I just couldn't really see the point. All it seemed to do was leave a trail of bright 'rainbow' colours across the screen in various shapes and designs. Wow! However, my little 12-month daughter, she thought it was great, wonderful, brilliant. She soon learnt how to use a mouse, to track, to see cause and effect, to look for changes in colour and shape. It taught her so much that I couldn't have done without *Rainbox*. I kept hold of it for my son to use a few years later. He thought it was really good too.

I'm just a bit sad that it won't run on my shiny iMac now. So back to *Up*. It is rubbish in some ways. But for the target audience and skill level it's better in other ways. Character, repetition, simplicity – you don't have to start from the beginning when you 'die', oh and the amount of blood and guts is zero. And can anyone tell me why there seems to be so few titles for the younger children to have a go at? Bring back the Living Books!

Andy Thornton

Andy Dyer responds: All good points and I've no doubt whatsoever that very young players, especially those who loved the film, will get a significant

>> STAR LETTER / Apple TV an expat godsend

Just wanted to comment on Apple TV, the much maligned Apple product. I read often in *MacFormat* comments stating that you cannot see the point of the device. Whilst I agree in the UK with Sky and BBC iPlayer it might be less than compelling. However, I have spent the past five years living in Malaysia and Hong Kong and I can assure you that the local television isn't great, both the terrestrial and cable. Having a British bank account and consequently a British *iTunes* account – the Apple TV has been an absolute godsend. I can watch TV series and films – uncensored and unedited when I want.

This is in addition to having all my pictures as a screensaver whilst I listen to the 8,000 songs in my *iTunes* library, as well as internet radio with the 3.0 software update.

I think if you are an expat this is an indispensable product – just ask the colleagues who I've persuaded to buy one.

Mark Beech

MacFormat replies: Thanks for the email Mark – it's good to hear Apple is helping you stay in touch with life back home.

Apple TV has proved itself useful to those living abroad.

>> STAR LETTER

Email all your letters to us at **macformat@futurenet.com** If yours gets picked as the MacFormat Star Letter, you'll be sent a fantastic EyeTV Hybrid. It comes with analog and digital tuners, so you can use it to put TV on your Mac wherever you are in the country!

amount of pleasure from the game. But I think the important point here is that just because a game is for kids, it shouldn't be a reason for it to lack ambition and sophistication. True, a child can learn valuable IT skills from the most basic software, but you only have to look, for example, at the *LEGO Star Wars* series to see that it's possible to make a game that's simultaneously accessible enough for young players to enjoy, but layered enough to appeal to all ages. A bit like Disney Pixar movies, in fact. And that's the thing about *Up* (the game), that really rankles. A movie that's brave enough to engage its young viewers with some pretty complex and weighty emotional themes deserves a game that treats its audience with similar respect. In my opinion, churning out yet another basic platformer isn't really good enough.

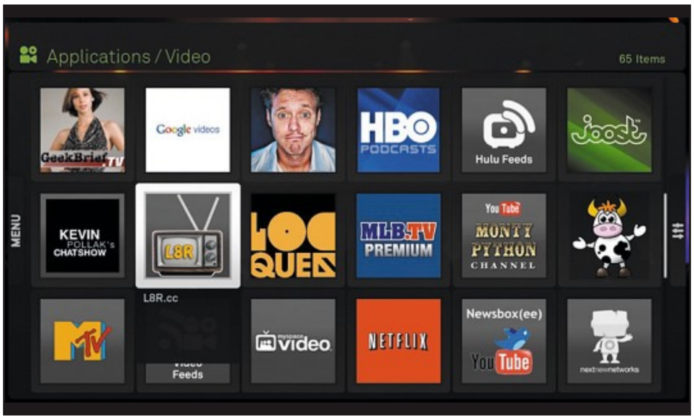
Adobe adoration

I am writing to applaud your review of *Photoshop Elements 8 for Mac* in December 2009. What a wonderful product it is, especially for photographers. And it has all the bells and whistles that you could hope for in a comprehensive package for just £75. It offers Mac users the next level up from *iPhoto*, which is amazingly good, but naturally it doesn't have all the great sophisticated palettes and tools that *PSE* boasts. My only gripe, and it's quite a serious one, is that it doesn't offer the facility to save images as CMYK. With the recent advances in DTP applications, even in *iLife*, to anyone wishing to export a document for commercial printing, it rules out *PSE* for consideration.

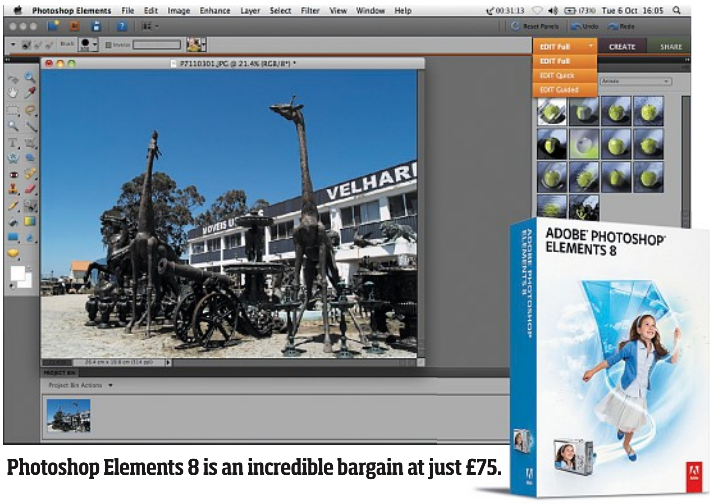
All I can add is that if Apple can offer complex programmes such as *Garageband* and the like in *iLife* for £71, why ruin the main course when Adobe has an opportunity to add such a basic necessity to an otherwise wonderful little package?

Barry Wilbraham

MacFormat replies: The answer lies in the phrase "commercial printing". The full-fat *Photoshop CS4* is Adobe's offering and the industry-standard for professionals, and its hefty price tag of £181 (upgrade) or £627 (full version) reflects this. So, you could view *Photoshop CS4* as being vastly over priced, or you could choose to view *Photoshop Elements 8* as an absolute bargain at only £75. It all entirely depends on what you will be using it for.



Boxee might suit you as a media player, rather than Front Row.


Photoshop Elements File Edit Image Enhance Layer Select Filter View Window Help
EDIT Full
CREATE
SHARE
ADOBE PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS 8

Photoshop Elements 8 is an incredible bargain at just £75.

Media centre mess

First a big thank you for creating a fantastic magazine. I live in New Zealand and I have an overseas subscription so I don't miss a copy!

I work in IT dealing with Windows desktops and laptops but 18 months ago I bought a Mac mini for my home, to take the place of a media centre, using it to mainly play music. Since then I have upgraded all my personal Windows computers to Macs. So I am obviously very happy indeed with choice.

However, one thing really niggles me is that the Mac (I'm using Snow Leopard on all computers) has, in my view, inferior media centre capabilities compared to Windows. I don't know if others agree with me but *Front Row* is nowhere near as good as the Windows Media Centre. I use *iTunes*, which is ok and to be fair it does a reasonable job but I find the interface is not as good as it should be for an Apple product. Also why is it that *Front Row* does not allow the use of the *iTunes* visualizers? Does Apple think when I use *Front Row* to play music that I want to watch the album art flipping every few seconds?

Without a doubt I know that I am using the best operating system in the world but a friend who uses Windows 7 still has a better media centre than me. How do you reckon I can wipe the smile off his face?

Martin Edwards

»

Twitter @#! talk

From the Twittersphere

We asked: what's your most-wanted Apple product for 2010, and why?

"Blu-ray for mac mini so I don't have to buy a new Dell mini desktop."
@diskoteka

"An iPhone OS update. Manage widgets and to-do items on lockscreen."
@LeePetersonUk

"A real tablet mac, because I want to see multi-touch technology bought to a desktop machine."
@harryjatkins

"A proper Media Server PC, like the Mac Mini, should be Blu-ray, HDMI, the lot."
@Bunglenick

"An iPhone battery that lasts at least 2 days!"
@designermagic

"An updated Aperture that includes 64-bit support, increased feature-set for handling RAW images."
@rob_may

"Flash for iPhone."
@Stuart_Anderton

"An affordable device somewhere between a Mac mini and Apple TV."
@windstano

"I'm curious to see the next iPhone - it should be a big update, as (hopefully) the Nexus One-level specs will up Apple's game!"
@chrisrooke

You can find out what we're up to each month by following the team at Twitter.com/MacFormat

APPLE DECADE / i say!

I really enjoyed Christopher Phin's review of the last ten years of Apple (as featured in Issue 215) but was most disappointed that he missed what is one of Apple's greatest contributions to the world, ever.

For too long, centuries even, the letter i has been the runt of the vowel community. Considered thin and weedy, though afflicted with serious egomania, by its fellow vowels, i has been rejected by every self-respecting person who prized modesty over other virtues. One only has to recall the devastating *Private Eye* feature that regularly counted how many times i featured in the writings of its least favourite columnists to recognise just how much this much misunderstood vowel was actually hated.

Then along came Apple and in a single bold stroke it rehabilitated i and made it synonymous with technological cool. Any, and every, bit of technology seeking even a hint of credibility is forced to begin with i.

The other vowels aren't laughing now.

Donal Donnelly-Wood

MacFormat replies: Since making its first appearance on the iMac in 1998 (where it simply stood for 'internet'), the i has since taken on a life all of its own, and appeared in several Apple product names, such as the iPod, iBook, iPhone. And, of course, if the rumour mill is to be believed, the iSlate or iTablet is waiting just around the corner for us…

These days it could be said that the i stands for 'very cool Apple product' as much as anything else.

iPod
Playlists
Browse
Extras
Settings
Backlight
MENU

Would the iPod have had the same impact without the 'i' in its name?

MacFormat replies: There are many third-party media centre applications on offer that will do the trick, such as *Boxee* (www.boxee.tv), for instance, which you can install on your Mac or Apple TV. On the whole, though, we agree with you – Apple really needs to sort out its approach to the media centre. We're hoping it will in 2010.

New convert

I have just converted from Windows to Mac and I absolutely love it. I was using Windows one evening and switched off the machine as usual, went to use it again next day… and had absolutely nothing but a blue screen of death. I had had enough. Plug and play? It's a joke – more like plug and pray that it starts up!

My MacBook Pro is the tops! I went for the top-spec one with fast hard drive so that I can edit video and I can now do this on the move, which is really great! I have to say the whole interface is sleek and extremely easy to use and looks great. I am thoroughly hooked and later in the year I will be buying one of the brand-new 27-inch Macs for my desk at home.

I recently visited New York, and was very impressed by the new Apple store on Broadway (near the Lincoln Centre). It was open at 9pm and still very, very busy, and the staff were generally quite young but so knowledgeable on any question you fired at them.

I picked up your magazine while in London, again I am hooked I'll be a regular from now on.

Derek Mathieson

MacFormat replies: Thanks for the email Derek. If you're hooked on MacFormat then you might like to consider subscribing – see page 28 for our latest subscription offer.

Leopard spotting

I originally purchased an iMac in 2005 (Power PC) having been a long-term PC user. Of course, I am now a complete Apple fanboy. I didn't bother upgrading to Leopard when it came out as I found Tiger so good and wasn't using half the features it held.

I have in the last three months bought a MacBook Pro with Snow Leopard installed. I want to upgrade my iMac to Leopard as I like the parental controls for my two young children. I know I cannot install Snow Leopard on my iMac as it is doesn't have an Intel chip.

My issue is nowhere can I find the Leopard software except on Amazon with resellers charging £170 for the software upgrade. Surely Apple knowing that a large percentage of its machines are Power PC should still offer the Leopard option. I hate to say it, but Windows XP had still been available after Vista had been released. Am I missing something and is there a way to purchase the upgrade through Apple?

Mark Beech

MacFormat replies: As soon as Apple releases a new version of OS X they stop selling the old one. Like you say, there are outlets on the web selling OS X 10.5 Leopard, but it's expensive.

You can still find copies on eBay for much less. However, buying on eBay comes with its own pitfalls, but if the seller looks reliable enough then it could save you a lot of money. ●

Finder File Edit View Go Window Help
Thu 10:49
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MacFormat investigates

Life beyond Mac OS X

The Mac is unique because it can run the Mac, Windows and Linux operating systems. But why and how would you add another OS? **Christopher Phin** investigates

Without an operating system – Mac OS X, say, or Windows XP – a computer is just a dumb box of chips, and even the most exciting application will have no environment in which to run.

And, it's easy to forget that you have a choice of which OS you run. In fact, as a Mac user, you're uniquely positioned because an Intel Mac is the only computer in the world that can legally run all three major operating systems, Mac OS, Windows and Linux. Indeed, you can, if you like, load all three on the same computer and pick which one you want to load when you switch your Mac on.

Even given that you have the choice, though, why would you ever want to install a different OS? Mac OS X, after all, is phenomenally good, and is, we think, the best OS for most people. There are a few reasons, and it depends on what alternative OS you're thinking of installing.

Stick a copy of Windows XP, Vista or (though its support is currently limited) Windows 7 onto an Intel Mac using the *Boot Camp* utility included with Mac OS X 10.5 and 10.6, and, boom, you've got a PC. It's a very nice PC, and you can always scurry back to Mac OS X if it all gets too much. But there's essentially zero difference between a Mac running Windows and a Dell running Windows. If you are forced to use Windows-only apps or services as part of your work, for example, add a copy of Windows to your Mac, and you've transformed it into a PC for 100% compatibility with your colleagues. Remember too that, with Snow Leopard, you can read from the Mac partition of your hard disk too.

>> WHY USE ANOTHER OS?

- Linux can give your old hardware a modern, secure operating system
- Linux is free, boasts thousands of great free apps, and is pretty easy to use
- You may have an ideological attraction to open software
- Running Windows gives you 100% compatibility with PC users
- Just for the hell of it!

But what about Linux? Why would you want to install that OS, (unfairly) perceived as being difficult and nerdy, onto your lovely Mac? We asked Paul Hudson, the editor of our sister title *Linux Format*. "The most common reason for people running Linux on their Mac," he said "is simply because they can get a bang up-to-date operating system running just fine on 400MHz PowerPC chips. Linux supports every major computer architecture in the world, you can even use a G3 if you really want to, but make sure you have at least 256MB of RAM.

"Other folks use it because they want a bit more power on their desktop: it's straightforward to set up, comes with tens of thousands of programs that are completely free to use, and is pretty much bulletproof in terms of security. But my favourite »

Fri 10:57
11:08
08/01/2010
Downloads
Documents
Public
Pictures
Music
Videos
Templates

BEYOND OS X

Why have one operating system when you can have three?

Illustration by MagicTorch

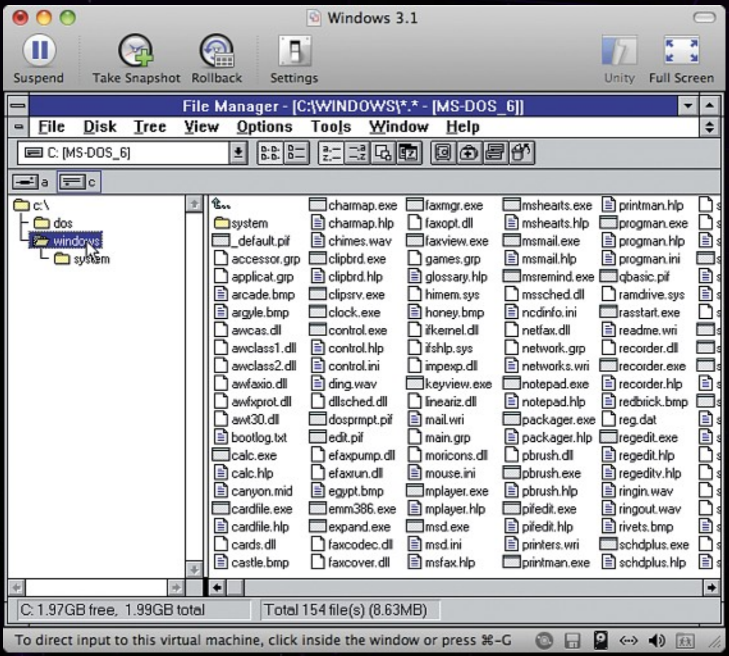
reason is simply for the fun of dabbling around – I like to break things and fix them again, and, while Linux does make it hard to shoot yourself in the foot, when you do you'll take your whole leg off."

As Hudson says, these days Linux is fairly easy to use as your primary operating system. It's not quite as robust as OS X when it comes to certain Mac hardware, but to be fair it's almost impossible for any operating system designed to run on more than a small range of computers to be as stable. Otherwise, Linux is excellent.

Don't discount, either, its astonishing abilities to breathe new life into old hardware. If your old G4 is still chugging along with Mac OS 9, wiping the slate clean and installing a nice friendly, modern version of Linux will introduce you to a whole new world, with free, powerful software that's regularly updated. Even simply being able to use a standards-compliant browser such as *Firefox 3* rather than *Internet Explorer for Mac* is a boon when, today, so much of our lives are or can be carried out online.

Of course, you could put Linux on a brand-new Mac Pro if you like, and indeed, as apart from doing it just for the fun of it, many people run Linux as their primary OS because they applaud the ethos behind the open-source movement. It's not just a whimsical delight in getting software that's free and which has been built by thousands of volunteers all over the world, but a passionate dedication to the idea that data ought not to be locked away in proprietary formats or hamstrung by DRM.

There are, however, many versions of Linux. They're known as 'distros', short for distributions, and you have to decide which to install. We asked Hudson for advice. "This really depends on what you consider an 'old' Mac to be," he said. "Let me put it like this: if the words 'old world' mean nothing to you, go for Ubuntu; it runs on G3, G4 and G5 (or Intel) CPUs. Ubuntu is by far the most popular Linux distribution, and with good reason: it's easy to use, well polished, and has an active community offering help at **ubuntuforums.org**.



```
..            charmap.exe   faxmgr.exe    mshearts.exe  printman.hlp
system        charmap.hlp   faxopt.dll    mshearts.hlp  progman.exe
_default.pif  chimes.wav    faxview.exe   msmail.exe    progman.hlp
accessor.grp  clipbrd.exe   games.grp     msmail.hlp    progman.ini
applicat.grp  clipbrd.hlp   glossary.hlp  msremind.exe  qbasic.pif
arcade.bmp    clipsrv.exe   himem.sys     mssched.dll   ramdrive.sys
argyle.bmp    clock.exe     honey.bmp     ncdinfo.ini   rasstart.exe
awcas.dll     control.exe   ifkernel.dll  netfax.dll    readme.wri
awclass1.dll  control.hlp   ifshlp.sys    network.grp   recorder.dll
awclass2.dll  control.ini   impexp.dll    networks.wri  recorder.exe
awfaxio.dll   ding.wav      keyview.exe   notepad.exe   recorder.hlp
awfxprot.dll  dllsched.dll  lineariz.dll  notepad.hlp   redbrick.bmp
awt30.dll     dosprmpt.pif  mail.wri      packager.exe  reg.dat
bootlog.txt   edit.pif      main.grp      packager.hlp  regedit.exe
calc.exe      efaxpump.dll  moricons.dll  pbrush.dll    regedit.hlp
calc.hlp      efaxrun.dll   mouse.ini     pbrush.exe    regeditv.hlp
canyon.mid    egypt.bmp     mplayer.exe   pbrush.hlp    ringin.wav
cardfile.exe  emm386.exe    mplayer.hlp   pifedit.exe   ringout.wav
cardfile.hlp  expand.exe    msd.exe       pifedit.hlp   rivets.bmp
cards.dll     faxcodec.dll  msd.ini       printers.wri  schdplus.exe
castle.bmp    faxcover.dll  msfax.hlp     printman.exe  schdplus.hlp
```

C: 1.97GB free, 1.99GB total

Total 154 file(s) (8.63MB)

To direct input to this virtual machine, click inside the window or press ⌘-G

VMware Fusion makes it possible to sample the delights of Linux without fully committing.

"Long-term Mac users who have hardware better suited to museums should look at Debian. If you're an advanced user with an Intel Mac, give OpenSUSE a try: it's a 'full-fat' distro, which comes on a DVD and installs pretty much all of it to your hard drive. If you want to try lots of text editors to find one that suits, OpenSUSE is a good place to start."

> *"Apart from just for the fun of it, many run Linux as their primary OS because they applaud the ethos behind the open-source movement"*

Even with the simplest of distros there will be a learning curve, though it's much shallower than it was a few years ago. For example, warns Hudson: "Mac users are quite familiar with downloading .dmg files from the web then dropping programs into their Applications directory. Linux doesn't do things like that, because we have a natural distrust of getting files from random websites. Instead, you'll find your distro uses a package manager, which is where you select the software you want and it downloads and installs it for you from a trusted source. To remove the program, use the package manager again."

Modern Linux distros support common WiFi chipsets, so you may find that WiFi works on your freshly installed Linux box right away. If not, you might have to download some drivers. The good news: distros such as Ubuntu can automatically identify and download appropriate drivers. The bad? They need a network connection to do this. If you have another Mac, though, remember that you can share a wireless connection over Ethernet from the **Sharing** pane of *System Preferences*, so you could connect it to your new Linux-powered Mac to pipe some internet connectivity in over Ethernet just long enough to get WiFi enabled. In our G4 example (right) once we'd hooked up the Ethernet lifeline, all we had to do was go to the **Hardware Drivers** utility from System > Administration for the drivers to be detected.

If, however, you're merely curious rather than ready to take the plunge, you could install Linux as a virtual machine within *VMware Fusion* or *Parallels Desktop*.

Ultimately, we're happiest when using a Mac as Jobs intended: running Mac OS X. But there are good reasons why you might want to try something different, especially if you've got an old PowerPC Mac hidden in a cupboard somewhere.

>> GOING FURTHER

Despite tremendous advances in making Linux more user-friendly over the years, it can still be a bit of a culture shock for seasoned Mac users. If you decide to take the plunge and start running Linux on an old Mac, you may need a helping hand. The folk at our sister mag, *Linux Format*, are there for you. The February 2010 issue, 'Newbies start here', might be useful! Buy from **http://bit.ly/LinFor**.

Triple-boot a Power Mac G4

Make your Mac a jack of all trades with OS 9, OS X and Linux

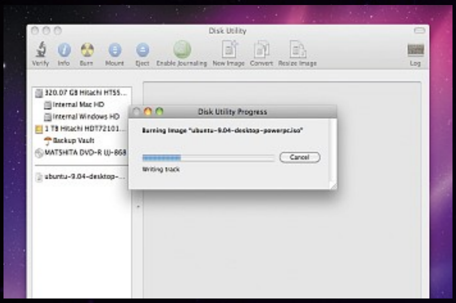
As an example of what you could do to give an old Mac a new lease of life, we're going to take a Power Mac G4 and make it triple-boot with Mac OS 9, Mac OS X and the Linux distro Ubuntu. If you want to make Linux your sole operating system, it's much simpler than the finicky process we're detailing here; you'd miss steps two and three completely, then when installing Ubuntu you'd tell it to use the entire disk.

This process, of course, wipes the information from the Mac's hard disk, so make sure you copy off any data you want to keep before beginning. If you have an existing OS X install, you could clone it off to a FireWire hard disk, then, once the internal hard disk is partitioned, clone it back to the OS X partition.

It should come as no surprise to learn that this is advanced stuff, and to fit all the instructions into the space we have, we've had to gloss over a few things, and assume a high level of competency. Go carefully.

You might notice, incidentally, that our test machine has a second internal hard disk – ignore it as we're not using it in this example.

HOW TO / Get to grips with Ubuntu

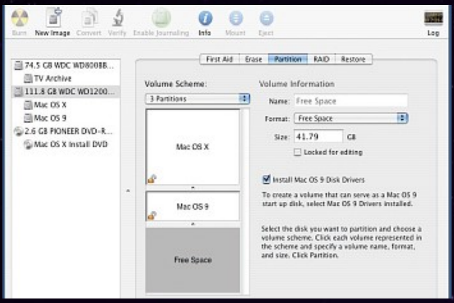

Disk Utility
Verify
Info
Burn
Mount
Eject
Enable Journaling
New Image
Convert
Resize Image
Log
320.07 GB Hitachi HTS5...
Internal Mac HD
Internal Windows HD
1 TB Hitachi HDT72101...
Backup Vault
MATSHITA DVD-R UJ-868
ubuntu-9.04-desktop-...
Disk Utility Progress
Cancel

Burning image "ubuntu-9.04-desktop-powerpc.iso"

Writing track

01 Download Ubuntu

On any Mac or PC, download the ISO file (a virtual disc image) of the Ubuntu live installer from **https://wiki.ubuntu.com/PowerPCDownloads**. We've opted for 9.04 as 9.10 has issues with burning. Open **Disk Utility**, click the **Burn** icon, select the downloaded ISO then pop in a CD-R and let it burn.


Burn
New Image
Convert
Verify
Enable Journaling
Info
Mount
Eject
Log
74.5 GB WDC WD800BB...
TV Archive
111.8 GB WDC WD1200...
Mac OS X
Mac OS 9
2.6 GB PIONEER DVD-R...
Mac OS X Install DVD
First Aid
Erase
Partition
RAID
Restore
Mac OS X
Mac OS 9
Free Space

Volume Scheme: 3 Partitions

Volume Information

Name: Free Space

Format: Free Space

Size: 41.79 GB

☐ Locked for editing

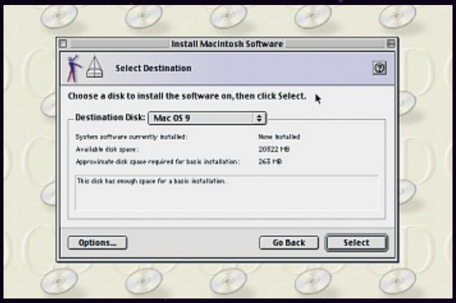
☑ Install Mac OS 9 Disk Drivers

To create a volume that can serve as a Mac OS 9 start up disk, select Mac OS 9 Drivers installed.

Select the disk you want to partition and choose a volume scheme. Click each volume represented in the scheme and specify a volume name, format, and size. Click Partition.

02 Partition the hard disk

Boot your Mac from your Tiger install CD. Launch *Disk Utility*, select the internal hard disk, then click the **Partition** tab. Create three partitions; one Mac OS Extended for OS X, another for OS 9, and define the rest as **Free Space**. Create them as different sizes (this will be useful later) and note the size of each.


Install Macintosh Software
Select Destination
Options...
Go Back
Select

Choose a disk to install the software on, then click Select.

Destination Disk: Mac OS 9

System software currently installed: None Installed

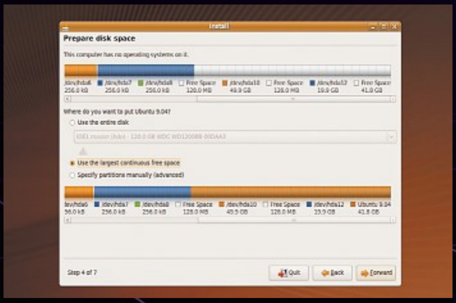
Available disk space: 20322 MB

Approximate disk space required for basic installation: 263 MB

This disk has enough space for a basic installation.

03 Install OS 9 and X

Once the partition has completed, restart the Mac and, as it cycles, pop out the Tiger disc and insert the Mac OS 9 install CD. Let it boot, then install OS 9 onto the Mac OS 9 partition you created previously. Complete the OS 9 setup. Once you're done, install Mac OS X onto the separate OS X partition.


Install
Prepare disk space
/dev/hda6 256.0 kB
/dev/hda7 256.0 kB
/dev/hda8 256.0 kB
Free Space 128.0 MB
/dev/hda10 49.9 GB
Free Space 128.0 MB
/dev/hda12 19.9 GB
Free Space 41.0 GB
/dev/hda6 56.0 kB
/dev/hda7 256.0 kB
/dev/hda8 256.0 kB
Free Space 128.0 MB
/dev/hda10 49.9 GB
Free Space 128.0 MB
/dev/hda12 19.9 GB
Ubuntu 9.04 41.8 GB
Step 4 of 7
Quit
Back
Forward

This computer has no operating systems on it.

Where do you want to put Ubuntu 9.04?

○ Use the entire disk

● Use the largest continuous free space

○ Specify partitions manually (advanced)

04 Install Ubuntu

Restart your Mac again, inserting the Ubuntu installer and holding C to boot from it. Allow Ubuntu to load, then double-click the **Install** icon on the desktop. When you're asked where you want to install Ubuntu, pick the second option. Use the largest continuous free space; the graphics show you what will happen.

05 Set boot preferences

After the installation has completed, restart the Mac back into Ubuntu, go to the **Applications** menu, then pick **Terminal** from the **Accessories** menu. Type:

```
sudo mac-fdisk -l
```

This will give results like those shown here. Use your notes of partition sizes to identify which partitions Mac OS X and Mac OS 9 are installed on. The partition name will be something like /dev/hda10 and /dev/hda12. Now type:

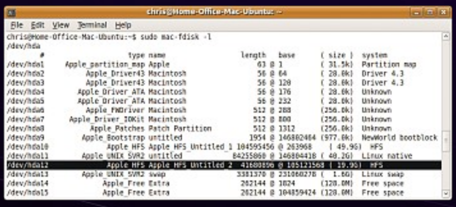
```
sudo cp /etc/yaboot.conf /etc/yaboot.conf.backup
```

to make a backup of the file we're about to edit. Then type:

```
sudo nano /etc/yaboot.conf
```

The installer will have identified the Mac OS X installation, so go to a line that says something like macosx=/dev/hda10 and, under that, type:

```
macos=/dev/hda12
```


chris@Home-Office-Mac-Ubuntu: ~
File
Edit
View
Terminal
Help

```
chris@Home-Office-Mac-Ubuntu:~$ sudo mac-fdisk -l
/dev/hda
        #                    type name                  length   base      ( size )  system
/dev/hda1     Apple_partition_map Apple                     63 @ 1         ( 31.5k)  Partition map
/dev/hda2        Apple_Driver43 Macintosh                   56 @ 64        ( 28.0k)  Driver 4.3
/dev/hda3        Apple_Driver43 Macintosh                   56 @ 120       ( 28.0k)  Driver 4.3
/dev/hda4      Apple_Driver_ATA Macintosh                   56 @ 176       ( 28.0k)  Unknown
/dev/hda5      Apple_Driver_ATA Macintosh                   56 @ 232       ( 28.0k)  Unknown
/dev/hda6        Apple_FWDriver Macintosh                  512 @ 288       (256.0k)  Unknown
/dev/hda7     Apple_Driver_IOKit Macintosh                 512 @ 800       (256.0k)  Unknown
/dev/hda8         Apple_Patches Patch Partition            512 @ 1312      (256.0k)  Unknown
/dev/hda9       Apple_Bootstrap untitled                  1954 @ 146802464 (977.0k)  NewWorld bootblock
/dev/hda10            Apple_HFS Apple_HFS_Untitled_1 104595456 @ 263968     ( 49.9G)  HFS
/dev/hda11       Apple_UNIX_SVR2 untitled              84255860 @ 146804418 ( 40.2G)  Linux native
/dev/hda12            Apple_HFS Apple_HFS_Untitled_2  41680856 @ 105121568 ( 19.9G)  HFS
/dev/hda13       Apple_UNIX_SVR2 swap                   3381370 @ 231060278 (  1.6G)  Linux swap
/dev/hda14           Apple_Free Extra                    262144 @ 1024      (128.0M)  Free space
/dev/hda15           Apple_Free Extra                    262144 @ 104859424 (128.0M)  Free space
```

or whatever the number was that you noted. To make Mac OS X default, on a new line under the one you've just written, type:

```
defaultos=macosx
```

then press ctrl + X to exit and save. Press Y when asked if you want to save, then return to confirm the file name. In the *Terminal*, type:

```
sudo ybin -v
```

Once the process has completed, you can restart from Ubuntu, and Mac OS X will boot. For more, see **http://bit.ly/Yaboot**. ●

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Archive 5.5.1 Keep track of your files across drives
All-new moves
Enhance your Magic Mouse
Go beyond OS X
Run other systems on a Mac
Macs on location
We meet Mark Carwardine
techradar.com
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Which virtual PC?
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The 20 biggest Mac problems SOLVED!
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Enhance OS X
King of the road
NEW NANO: THE VERDICT
Snow Leopard
Lost files found

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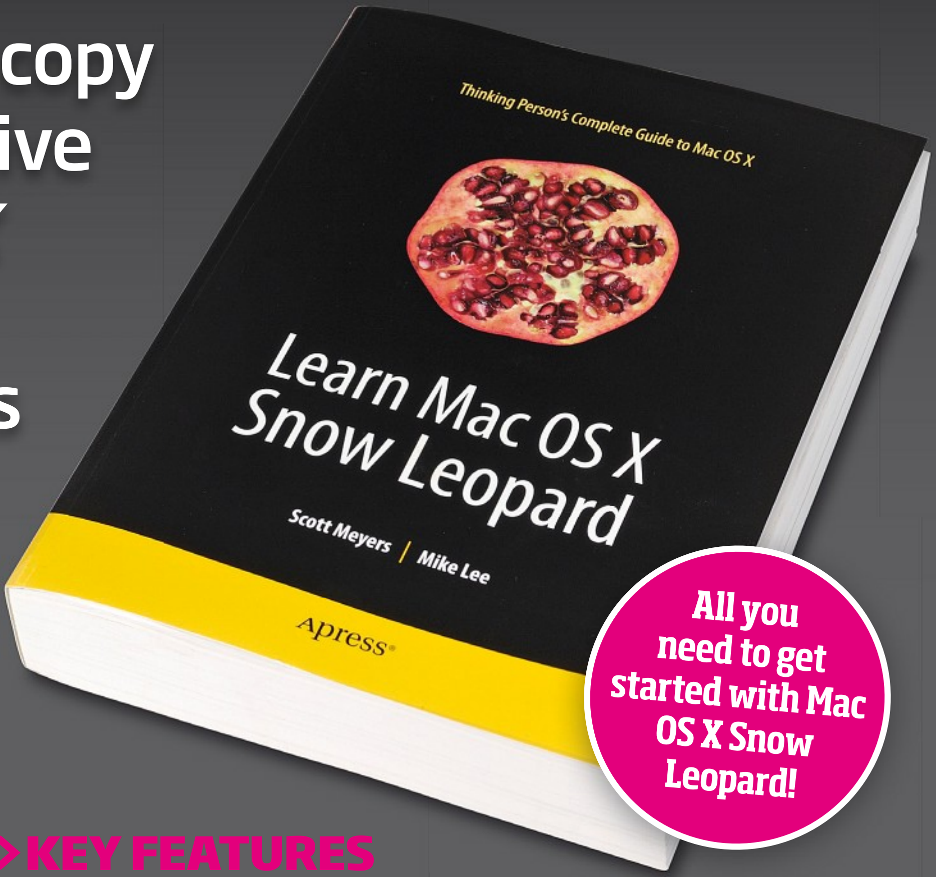
Thinking Person's Complete Guide to Mac OS X
Learn Mac OS X Snow Leopard
Scott Meyers | Mike Lee
Apress

All you need to get started with Mac OS X Snow Leopard!

Want to learn all about Apple's new operating system but not sure where to start? This comprehensive guide to Apple's latest version of Mac OS X 10.6, Snow Leopard, gives you everything you need to know to live a happy, productive Mac life. *Learn Mac OS X Snow Leopard* will have you up and connected in no time at all. It's chock-full of useful information, and you'll cover a wealth of ground in the sort of time it takes other books just to get you plugged in!

>>KEY FEATURES

- Discover all the ins and outs of the *Finder* and Snow Leopard's streamlined workflow.
- Use the latest features of Apple's built-in applications, including *Mail, Safari, iCal, Address Book, iChat, Preview* and more.
- Learn about Snow Leopard's improved security and reliability, and how to take full advantage of the connected world and a wealth of new mobile devices.
- Administer your computer and network for yourself, your family, or your business.
- Work with add-on devices via direct connection or wirelessly.
- Master effective strategies for comprehensive data backup, recovery and security.
- Explore all of Apple's improved *iLife* applications, including *iTunes, iPhoto* and *iMovie*.
- Delve into more advanced topics, such as how to take advantage of the Darwin subsystem in Leopard, how to run multiple operating systems on your Mac, and how to cooperate with other operating systems (and help them cooperate with you).
- Get started with your own Mac OS X software development in Snow Leopard.

Never lose a file again!

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO BACKING UP AND RESTORING YOUR MAC

Had a bad data experience? **Hollin Jones** reveals how to keep your files safe and what to do when the worst happens

Your Mac is in all probability one of your more prized possessions. Perhaps you even have more than one – a desktop and a portable, and an iPod touch or an iPhone to complete the line-up. What's easy to forget though is that the kit itself is only part of the story. It's actually your data that's really valuable. If your Mac breaks down, it can be repaired. But if a hard drive croaks or something is accidentally deleted and it hasn't been backed up, there's no way to ever recover it.

For most people, their Mac stores all their data, from bank account information to photo libraries, home movies and email correspondence. It's fair to say that for many users, their entire life is on their Mac. And yet backing up is sometimes thought of as an inconvenience and something that people only start to do after they've already lost some important files. Since OS X 10.5 Leopard, Apple has offered *Time Machine*, a straightforward and hassle-free backup utility integrated into the system. It's so easy to use that there's no excuse not to be using it regularly.

We'll show you how it works, how to get the most out of it and how to restore deleted files, folders and even entire systems – plus, of course, the various online backup and other archiving tools on offer. With our guide to backing up, you need never lose anything again…

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»

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LIBRARY
Events
Photos
Faces
Places
RECENT
Last 12 Months
Last Import
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Trash
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Shadows:
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Reset
Copy
Paste
Rotate
Crop
Straighten
Enhance
Red-Eye
Retouch
Effects
Adjust
Done
Photo 10 of 55
MacBook Pro

Back up your precious files with Time Machine, which has been integrated into all systems since OS X 10.5 Leopard.

Introducing Time Machine

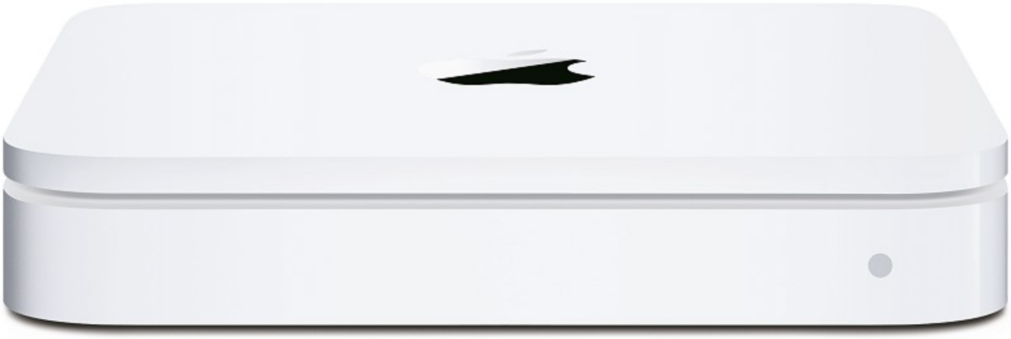
Apple has built the perfect backup solution right into Mac OS X…

Mac OS X 10.6 is the most stable and powerful operating system that Apple has ever created, but that doesn't mean that nothing will ever go wrong with your files. An accident, a theft, or mistakenly deleting or overwriting a file or folder can all result in the loss of important data. And that's not even counting the possibility of a hard drive failure or the unexpected disconnection of an external hard drive, either of which can in some cases be terminal.

With all the focus on using your Mac as the hub of your digital life, it's easy to forget that storing everything on a single machine is a great idea – unless something goes wrong with that machine. With OS X 10.5, Apple introduced *Time Machine*, an outwardly simple and straightforward backup tool tightly integrated into the system. It was a typically Apple-like approach to nudging users towards a certain way of working – in this case, backing up. There are no complicated options, no fiddling and best of all, it works automatically.

You'll find *Time Machine* in your Mac's *System Preferences* if you're running OS X 10.5 or 10.6, with a large, friendly on/off button to activate or deactivate it. It works by initially making a byte-for-byte copy of your system to a secondary or external hard drive, including not just all your data and applications but also the system itself. Every subsequent backup that you perform or that is done automatically is incremental, meaning *Time Machine* only backs up files that have been added or modified since the last backup. It's able to determine this information thanks to some complex low-level technology using something called 'fsevents', though all most users need to know about this is that it works invisibly in the background. The great advantage of incremental backups is that they use far less space than just copying everything every time. It also means you can rest assured that every new or modified file is being backed up, without you having to know what or where those files are.

> **"With OS X 10.5, Apple introduced Time Machine, a straightforward backup tool tightly integrated into the system"**



Apple's Time Capsule comes in 1 or 2 terabyte flavours and is also a high-speed wireless base station, enabling fast wireless backups from multiple Macs.

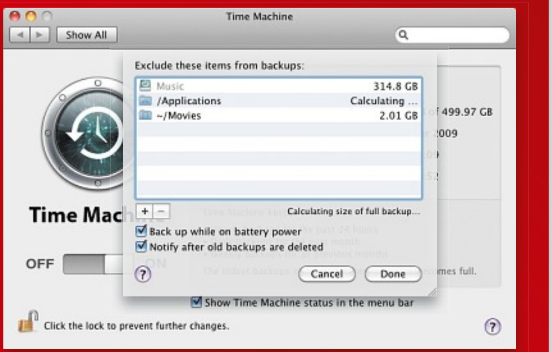
Recovery operation

Time Machine would be merely a good solution if this was the whole story, but the reason it's special is that it lets you recover data in a really intuitive way. By entering *Time Machine's* 'history' view, your Mac can display snapshots of every file and folder at every point it has been backed up. So, for example, if you have deleted or changed an item, you can go back to the last backup and locate it from the point before you changed it; or, from the point before that, for as many backups as you have. From there you can

» HOW TO / Cater for individual apps

There are a few instances in which *Time Machine*, as good as it is, doesn't work as you would want it to. This is to do with the way some developers build their apps, sometimes out of necessity. *Microsoft Entourage*, for example, stores all its mails and attachments in one database, which *Time Machine* treats as a single file. Every time you receive a new email, the system marks the file as having been modified, so it's included in the backup. With a typical database file reaching 1GB or more in size, this results in large and unnecessary repeated backups of the file.

Similarly, Windows emulators like *VMWare Fusion* use large virtual disk files to store their guest operating systems. Since booting up one of these large files causes it to be marked as 'modified', repeatedly backing these up will fill a drive at alarming speed. The solution is to add these items to the list of *Time Machine's* excluded items and manually back them up from time to time as you see fit.



Exclude these items from backups:

Music	314.8 GB
/Applications	Calculating ...
~/Movies	2.01 GB

Calculating size of full backup...

☑ Back up while on battery power

☑ Notify after old backups are deleted

Cancel Done

☑ Show Time Machine status in the menu bar

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Exclude large files or folders in Time Machine's preferences.

restore the file or delete it from the backup, if you wish. You can use **Spotlight** to preview an item to see if it's the one you want, and navigate back and forth through a folder's history.

Big fast backups

It makes sense to back up to an external FireWire or USB2 hard drive, as these are both surprisingly inexpensive and huge in size, though network drives and partitioned internal drives are also supported in some configurations. For as long as the specified drive is connected and *Time Machine* is switched on, it will keep hourly backups for the past 24 hours, daily backups for the past month and weekly backups for previous months. If you prefer, you can alter this schedule with a free app called *Time Machine Scheduler* (http://tinyurl.com/ypwttp). You might want to do this if you worry that an automatic backup starting up could interfere with your work or slow your Mac down. You can increase the backup interval and also force it to skip backups between specified times of day, but still leave it activated so you don't have to keep turning it on and off.

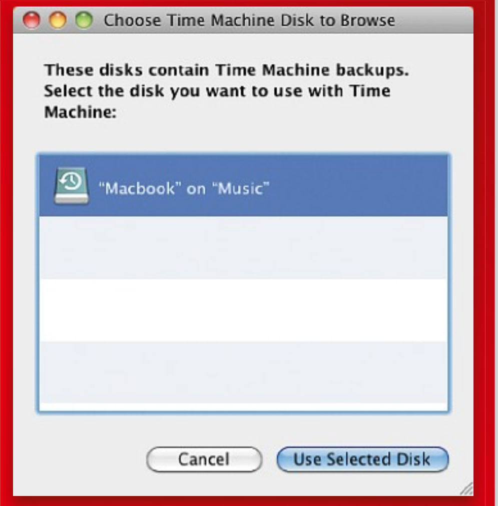
There's not much point in getting a backup drive that's the same size as your hard drive, as it will probably fill up quite quickly, especially if you regularly add or modify lots of large files. The good news is that very large drives are now commonplace and so a 500GB, 750GB or even 1 terabyte external hard drive shouldn't break the bank. Western Digital's 1TB My Book Essential can be picked up for around £75, and LaCie's 2TB Neil Poulton Design drive is around £150. If your needs are more modest, LaCie makes a 500GB 2.5 inch drive for around £70. Apple of course makes the Time Capsule, a combined 802.11n wireless base station and 1 or 2 terabyte hard drive specially designed to work with *Time Machine* and offering wireless backups, so you don't have to manually connect a drive to one or more Macs to back them up. Although it's more expensive than a basic drive, it does offer various other advantages such as dual band WiFi, guest networking, wireless drive sharing and wireless printer sharing.

With regular backups comes the probability that a drive will eventually fill up, but there are things you can do to prolong the amount of time before this happens. Namely, excluding some items from backups. Obviously you want your important data to be backed up regularly, and leaving *Time Machine* switched on and the drive connected is the most sensible way to achieve this. But there are situations where backing up certain files is unnecessary and will just eat up space. For example, if you are temporarily storing large files on a drive before moving them somewhere else, you may not want them included in your hourly backups. Similarly, if you have a *Final Cut* scratch folder for storing temporary video files, backing this up could be undesirable. The solution is to exclude them from *Time Machine's* schedule by clicking **Options** in *Time Machine* and adding the relevant folders to the list of excluded items. If you decide you do want them to be included, you can remove them from this list, even if it's only temporarily so they get backed up once a month, for example. »

» HOW TO / Back up all your Macs

If you have more than one Mac, you can use the same *Time Machine* volume to back them up. This means that the drive will fill up more quickly, but OS X will nevertheless use hardware IDs to tell which backup belongs to which Mac and operate correctly.

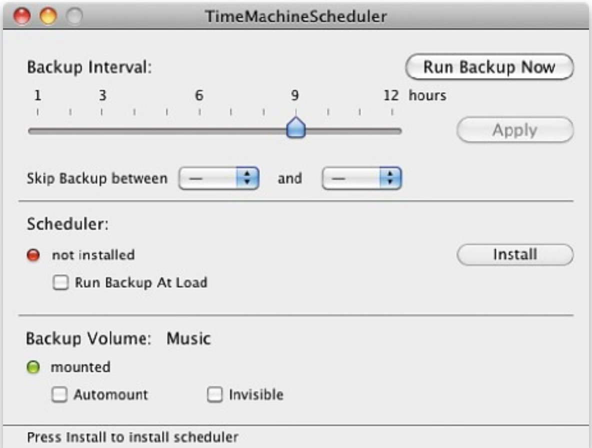
It will make your life easier to allocate different names to the two Macs by going to System Preferences > Sharing. This technique is perhaps most useful if you have an Apple Time Capsule, because it offers wireless backups and if your Macs have compatible Airport cards, will operate at the faster 802.11n transfer speed. This becomes a true 'fire and forget' sort of solution. Even if you're working with a simpler USB2 or FireWire hard drive, you can plug it into each Mac manually to achieve multiple backups, though you will want a large capacity drive. It's possible to manually delete backups to reclaim space if a drive gets too full.



These disks contain Time Machine backups. Select the disk you want to use with Time Machine:

"Macbook" on "Music"

Store multiple backup volumes on the same drive.



Backup Interval: 9 hours

Skip Backup between – and –

Scheduler: ● not installed

☐ Run Backup At Load

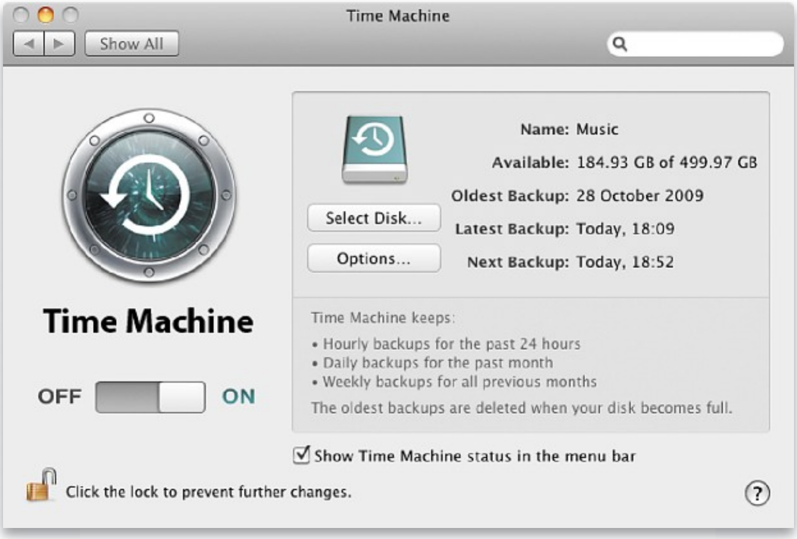
Backup Volume: Music

● mounted

☐ Automount ☐ Invisible

Press Install to install scheduler

Alter Time Machine's default backup intervals with the free Time Machine Scheduler to give you more flexibility.



Name: Music
Available: 184.93 GB of 499.97 GB
Oldest Backup: 28 October 2009
Latest Backup: Today, 18:09
Next Backup: Today, 18:52

Time Machine keeps:
- Hourly backups for the past 24 hours
- Daily backups for the past month
- Weekly backups for all previous months

The oldest backups are deleted when your disk becomes full.

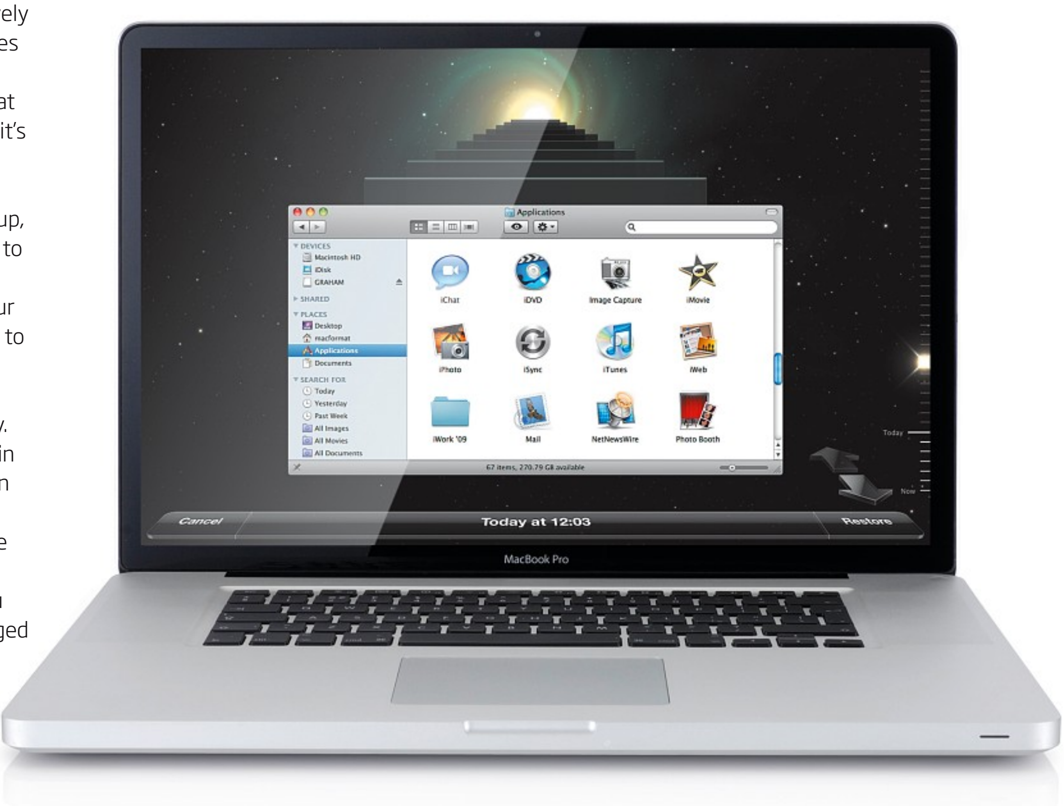
☑ Show Time Machine status in the menu bar

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Invest in a large external hard drive to use with Time Machine and you won't go far wrong.

Restoring backed-up data

Recovering files from Time Machine is easier than you think...


Applications
DEVICES
Macintosh HD
iDisk
GRAHAM
SHARED
PLACES
Desktop
macformat
Applications
Documents
SEARCH FOR
Today
Yesterday
Past Week
All Images
All Movies
All Documents
iChat
iDVD
Image Capture
iMovie
iPhoto
iSync
iTunes
iWeb
iWork '09
Mail
NetNewsWire
Photo Booth
67 items, 270.79 GB available
Today
Now
Cancel
Today at 12:03
Restore
MacBook Pro

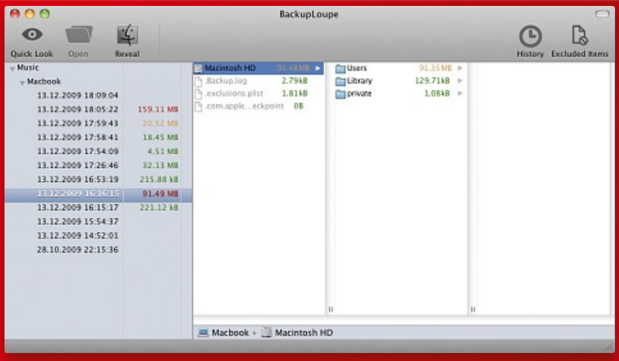
Backing up lots of files is relatively easy, and finding individual files that you want to restore is almost as simple. *Time Machine*'s great strength lies not only in the fact that it's easy to use and works incrementally, only backing up files that have been added or changed since the last backup, but in the way that it provides access to those backups. With more basic software, you usually have to pick your way through an arcane set of options to look for the items you're after. With *Time Machine* however, you can navigate in a much more intuitive way.

There are many possible situations in which you might want to get hold of an earlier version of a file or folder. The most obvious would be when you have accidentally or deliberately deleted something but then later find that you need it back; or, where you have changed a file but then realise you want to get that original version back again. With *Time Machine* you're able to access a file or folder at every point at which it's been backed up. And since the backups are incremental, it will only have been backed up when it has been modified in the period between two backups. So provided that you let *Time Machine* run regularly, you should be able to access items as far back as their creation or first backup.

By choosing to enter *Time Machine* from the menu bar icon, which you can choose to show in *Time Machine's* preferences, you will invoke the *Time Machine* interface. This causes the Desktop to slide away and be replaced with a screen depicting the various stages of the currently selected folder going back through time. Along the right-hand side of the screen you will see a timeline stretching from the present back to the first backup, complete with dates, and two arrows to navigate back and forth in time. If you run the mouse over this timeline you will see that it behaves a little like the Dock, magnifying itself to reveal more details about the time period you have selected

>> HOW TO / Monitor Time Machine

You can tell what *Time Machine* is backing up by using a specialised application such as *BackupLoupe*, available for €1.49 from **www.soma-zone.com/BackupLoupe**. This enables you to browse your backups and find out which files and folders have content that changes frequently and as such are getting backed up most regularly.


BackupLoupe
Quick Look
Open
Reveal
History
Excluded Items
Music
Macbook
Macbook ▸ Macintosh HD

```
13.12.2009 18:09:04
13.12.2009 18:05:22   159.11 MB
13.12.2009 17:59:43    20.52 MB
13.12.2009 17:58:41    18.45 MB
13.12.2009 17:54:09     4.51 MB
13.12.2009 17:26:46    32.13 MB
13.12.2009 16:53:19   215.88 kB
13.12.2009 16:16:15    91.49 MB
13.12.2009 16:15:17   221.12 kB
13.12.2009 15:54:37
13.12.2009 14:52:01
28.10.2009 22:15:36
```

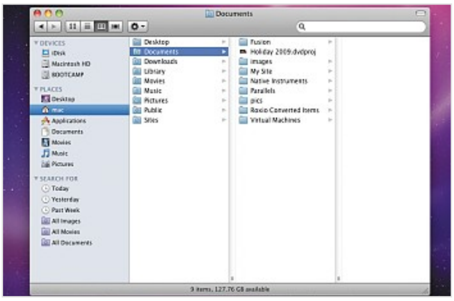
```
Macintosh HD         91.48 MB ▸
.Backup.log           2.79kB
.exclusions.plist     1.81kB
.com.apple...eckpoint 0B
```

```
Users      91.35 MB ▸
Library   129.71kB ▸
private     1.08kB ▸
```

Backuploupe gives you expanded information on your backups.

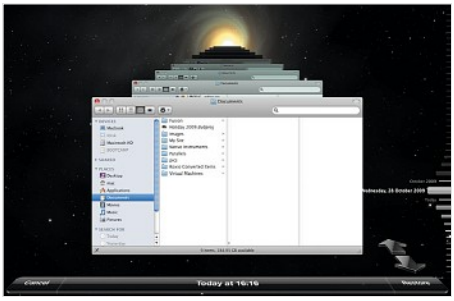
Time Machine excludes certain temporary and cache folders, but this doesn't account for every third-party program and where it might store its temporary files. If the problem space-hogging items turn out to be caches or something similar, you'll be able to identify them and exclude them from backups. *BackupLoupe* adds to the backup functionality of your Mac by providing features such as item history, drag-and-drop restoration to any location, revealing items in the *Finder*, using multiple *Time Machine* disks and the ability to exclude items from future backups without having to open *Time Machine's* preferences first. If you navigate to the backup folder on your backup drive, you can drill down through the various subfolders to get at your backed-up data, but an application like this provides a more elegant solution.

» HOW TO / Restoring a file in a Finder window



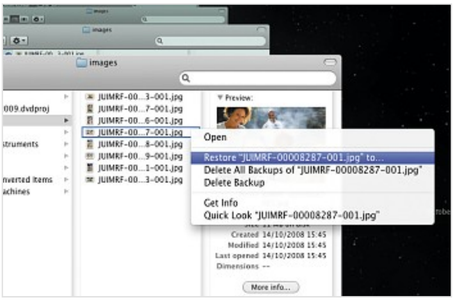
01 Navigate to a folder

In the *Finder*, open a new window and then navigate to the folder where you think the item is or was located that you want to restore. If you don't know this, just open a window and invoke *Time Machine* either from the Dock or menu bar icon.



02 Find your file

Time Machine will now show you the history of the folder you selected. You can navigate by clicking on folders or places from the left column and the history view will change to reflect your choices. Use the arrows or timeline to move through the backups.


images
Preview:
Open
Restore "JUIMRF-00008287-001.jpg" to...
Delete All Backups of "JUIMRF-00008287-001.jpg"
Delete Backup
Get Info
Quick Look "JUIMRF-00008287-001.jpg"
More info...

03 Restore the item

Hit [Spacebar] to preview files. Select one or more files or folders to restore and hit **Restore**, or right-click and choose **Restore To…** and a destination. If the file is identical to the one that's currently in the same location, you'll be asked to rename, overwrite or cancel it. ●

and displaying specific dates for any backups that you mouse over. Click on one of these to jump straight to it. A bar along the bottom of the screen shows you the exact date and time of whatever backup of a folder you are looking at.

To use **Spotlight** within *Time Machine*, you can type a search term into the search field in a *Finder* window and hit the back arrow to make *Time Machine* search through its backups for that term. If you don't know exactly when you last deleted or changed a file, you can use the back arrow to automatically travel through time to see when that folder was last modified. Once you have located an item, you can use **Quick Look** by selecting it and hitting [Spacebar] to get a preview of its contents. You can't open items directly in *Time Machine* view, but you can preview them by using this method. In the case of music and movies, **Quick Look** will actually let you play them back. Once you've identified an item you want, you can restore it by selecting it and pressing the **Restore** button at the bottom right. The file will then be copied to the Desktop or the current instance of the same folder it's located in, if it still exists. If two items in the same folder are going to have the same name, you're prompted to keep only one or both. In OS X 10.6 you can right click on an item in *Time Machine* view and choose **Restore to…** which will let you choose a destination. For users of OS X 10.5, make sure the 'action' or 'gear' icon is present in your *Finder* window's toolbar. You can enable this by choosing View > Customize Toolbar. This contains an option called **Restore to** which has the same effect. The item will remain as part of the backup, but now will also exist in the present, and so will be included in the next backup.

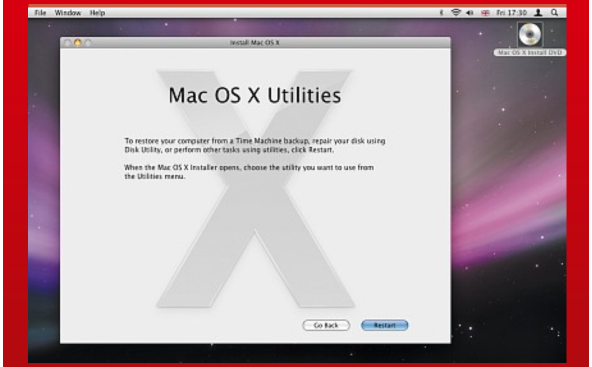
> "You will see a timeline stretching from the present back to the first backup, with dates and arrows to navigate through time"

It's possible to restore several items or several folders within a folder by simply multiple-selecting them, holding the ⇧ or ⌘ keys while clicking to choose them. The right-click menu for one or more items in *Time Machine* also has some other functions. There's **Open**, which activates **Quick Look**, **Get Info** to reveal item information, and some deletion options. **Delete Backup** will remove that instance of that item from the currently selected backup, and **Delete all backups of the file** will identify any instances of that file that exist in any of the backups on that drive. This is useful for saving space when big items are using it up and are no longer required. »

» HOW TO / Restore your OS

The first time you back up a Mac with *Time Machine*, it creates a copy of the entire system, including all the underlying system and library files required for OS X to run. Unless, that is, you specifically exclude them from the first backup.

There's a good reason why you shouldn't exclude them though, and that's because this initial copy is a failsafe working version of your system, backed up to an external drive. So if you experience a problem, you can always revert to a working system by inserting and booting from a system DVD, connecting the backup drive and choosing **Restore from Time Machine Backup**. The backup will appear and you'll be able to clone the whole system back onto a working hard drive. Of course, it's only as up to date as your last backup, hence the importance of regularly backing up. This technique also works for cloning one system onto another Mac and is safer than physically swapping hard drives. In some cases, swapping drives is tricky – when you want to clone a system from a laptop to a desktop Mac, for example.



To restore your computer from a Time Machine backup, repair your disk using Disk Utility, or perform other tasks using utilities, click Restart.

When the Mac OS X Installer opens, choose the utility you want to use from the Utilities menu.

Your system DVD enables you restore a Time Machine backup.

Restore within Apple apps

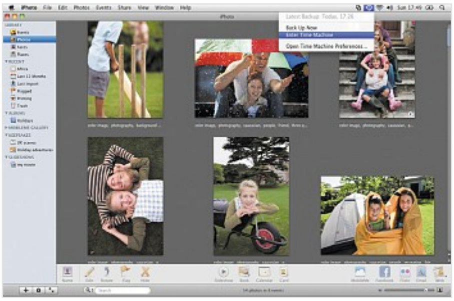
Time Machine also works within some Apple apps

Being able to recover files and folders is great, but many applications store their information in different ways than simply files with names in the *Finder*. Applications like *Address Book*, *Mail* and *iPhoto*, for example, use databases of information and it's not so straightforward to pull a single email, contact or photo out of a backup like you could with a folder or a *Word* document, because they're contained within a larger database. Luckily though, Apple, having designed all of the software in question, has addressed this and made it possible to access certain restore features of *Time Machine* from within these applications. Although you could navigate to the database files using the regular *Time Machine* view, this method isn't actually all that helpful because it wouldn't show you the information in any kind of usable form. And by restoring that information to the desktop you would still have to open it in the relevant application to view it, which can cause problems with overwriting current data.

The solution is really quite simple and involves booting the relevant application and then, with it still in the foreground, invoking *Time Machine* either from the Dock or the menu bar. What happens then is that *Time Machine*'s interface appears, only instead of showing the *Finder* and its windows as normal, it shows the application's window. You can then move back and forth through time and for each backup you will see the relevant data that existed in that application, at that point. So in *Address Book*, for example, even if you have deleted some contacts, you will be able to go back in time while staying within *Address Book*'s interface and restore one or more contacts back to the present. In *Mail*, you can do the same and restore mailboxes or individual email messages that you had since deleted. *Time Machine* will avoid duplicating mails by creating a separate mailbox within *Mail* for the recovered emails. In *iPhoto '08* or later, you can do the same and restore photos from previous backups. Even *GarageBand* from version *'08* onwards now supports *Time Machine*, so if you open a *GarageBand* project and invoke *Time Machine* you will be able to revert to an earlier version of a project, as long as it was backed up.

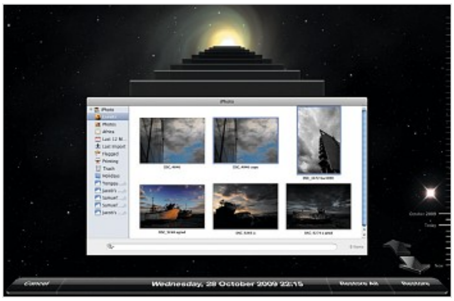
There are a couple of caveats to this, even though on the whole it's very useful. The first is that you cannot restore these things to an alternative location like you can with files and folders; they have to be restored to the current database folder of the application in question. As such, in some cases they may overwrite current data, unless you keep your eyes open. The

» HOW TO / Restore pictures in iPhoto



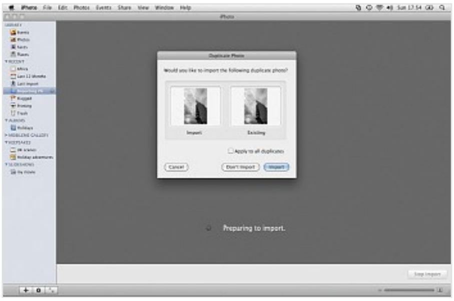
01 Open iPhoto

This assumes that you have already performed some backups using *Time Machine* in the past. Open *iPhoto* and then enter *Time Machine* either from the Dock icon or menu item. Choose an **Event** or **Album** from the column on the left.



02 Navigate your backups

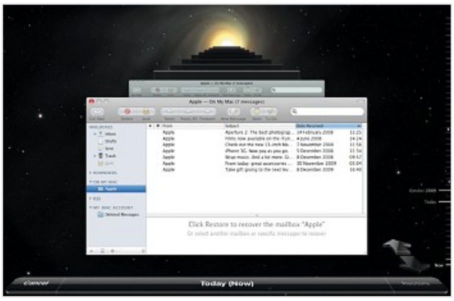
Use the arrows to move between backups of your **iPhoto Library**, or click the dates on the timeline. Double-click on an **Event** to open it, or select a whole **Event** or one or more images from within an **Event** or the library. Click **Restore** at will.



03 Decide on duplication

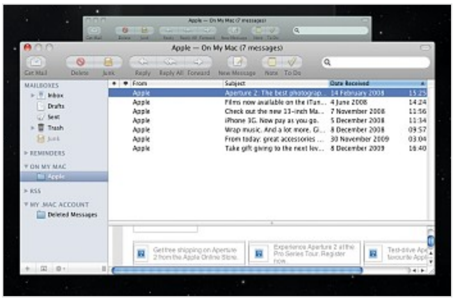
You'll be taken back to *iPhoto* and warned if any of the images you're trying to restore are duplicates of ones already in your **iPhoto Library**. If you do import, the file will be duplicated. If the image hasn't been changed since the backup, you can opt not to import. ●

» HOW TO / Restore a lost email in Apple Mail



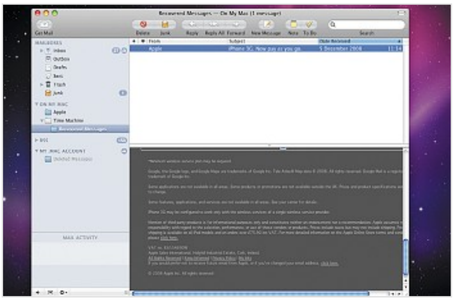
01 Open Mail

Open *Mail* and in the column on the left, select the mailbox that you want to search. Again, for this to work you must have backed up with *Time Machine* at least once prior to attempting to restore email. Select **Enter Time Machine** from the Dock icon or menu bar.



02 Choose items

If you have a mailbox selected, you can click **Restore** to recover the whole mailbox. Alternatively, go into a mailbox and select one or more emails from within it. You can preview them by revealing the preview pane at the base of the window.



03 View the mail

Time Machine will place the recovered mail into a new mailbox called **Time Machine/ Recovered Messages** in order to avoid duplication. From here you can drag it to any other mailbox you want, or work with it like any other message. ●

solution to this in *GarageBand* is to duplicate the current project file prior to restoring an older one, so that you have a copy of both. As we have noted, *Mail* creates a separate mailbox to avoid confusion. *iPhoto* will prompt you to overwrite any images that are identical to the ones you're restoring and so gives you the choice whether to do so or not. *Address Book* will ask if you want to add the selected cards to the database and will warn you if the card is a duplicate of an existing one, giving you the option to review the conflicting information and amend it if necessary. So as long as you understand what you're restoring, there should be no problems with overwriting existing data.

Another minor quirk of this way of working with *Time Machine* as opposed to the regular files and folders approach is that sometimes, if you enter *Time Machine* with an item selected that wasn't present or was excluded when some of the backups were done, those backups will be greyed out in the timeline on the right and you won't be able to select them. If for example you have recently created a mailbox in *Mail* and then enter *Time Machine* with that mailbox selected in *Mail*, only backups made since that mailbox was created will appear in white as normal; the earlier ones will be greyed out. You should, however, be able to return to *Mail* and select another, older mailbox and then back in *Time Machine* view, the previous backups associated with that mailbox will be available to select. Other applications do not at present integrate with *Time Machine* in this way, so if you enter *Time Machine* with another application in the foreground, it will simply slide from view and the regular *Finder* view will take its place.

> "Time Machine integration with these key Apple applications might seem like nothing too exciting, but it's incredibly useful"

Time Machine integration with these key Apple applications might seem like nothing too exciting on the face of it, but in fact it's incredibly useful. You have always been able to back up a load of information in one go – your *Mail* database or photo library, for example – and then dig through them in the *Finder* later to try to locate and extract individual mails, pictures, contacts and so on. But that can be a long and slow process, especially compared to the convenience of simply jumping into *Time Machine* within an application and being able to search all its backed up data in the same view you normally see when using the application. All the formatting remains intact and of course you can use **Spotlight** from within *Time Machine* to search. In fact, *Address Book*, *Mail* and *iPhoto* all have their own search fields that still work in *Time Machine* view, so you can quickly search any backups directly from inside the app, making it easy to find data from even the biggest library of mail, pictures or contacts. At present, these are the apps that integrate with *Time Machine*, but hopefully Apple will in future add this level of backup support to other apps.

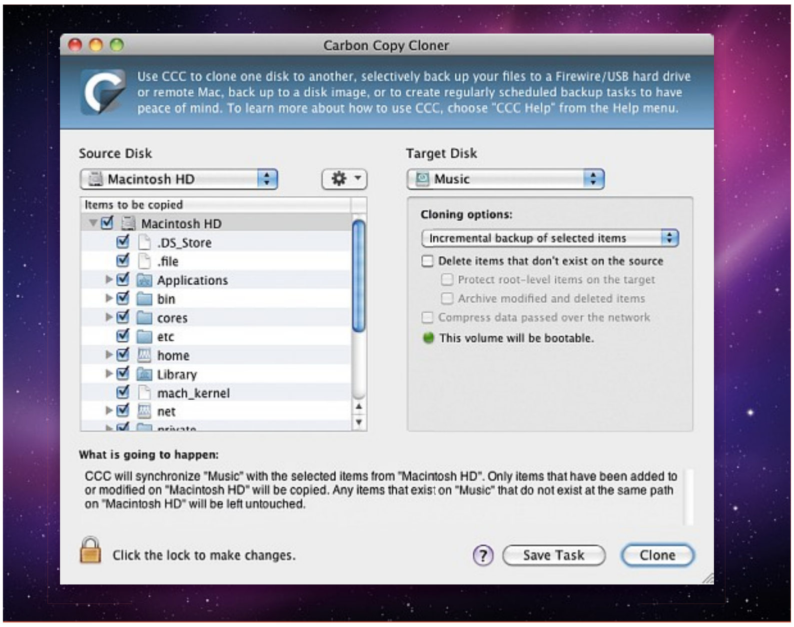
Hopefully Apple will expand Time Machine's software integration in future to applications such as iTunes.

»

Other backup solutions

Time Machine isn't the only solution for backing up your Mac…

Time Machine is certainly easy to use and for many users running OS X 10.5 and 10.6, it's a great solution. There are others, however, for whom alternatives might be better, or at least for whom other backup tools could be used in conjunction with *Time Machine* for added security and flexibility. At its most basic, of course, backing up a Home directory (for example) is as simple as dragging and dropping the folder onto an external hard drive; or, burning data to rewritable or one-shot DVDs. Although this is okay, its reliant on you to remember to do it and doesn't provide any file recovery features that are more advanced than what the *Finder* has to offer. It certainly can't provide a bootable backup, since OS X uses so many invisible system files with special permissions. So a more dedicated solution is preferable.


Carbon Copy Cloner

Use CCC to clone one disk to another, selectively back up your files to a Firewire/USB hard drive or remote Mac, back up to a disk image, or to create regularly scheduled backup tasks to have peace of mind. To learn more about how to use CCC, choose "CCC Help" from the Help menu.

Source Disk: Macintosh HD

Target Disk: Music

Items to be copied
- ☑ Macintosh HD
  - ☑ .DS_Store
  - ☑ .file
  - ☑ Applications
  - ☑ bin
  - ☑ cores
  - ☑ etc
  - ☑ home
  - ☑ Library
  - ☑ mach_kernel
  - ☑ net

Cloning options: Incremental backup of selected items

☐ Delete items that don't exist on the source

☐ Protect root-level items on the target

☐ Archive modified and deleted items

☐ Compress data passed over the network

● This volume will be bootable.

What is going to happen:

CCC will synchronize "Music" with the selected items from "Macintosh HD". Only items that have been added to or modified on "Macintosh HD" will be copied. Any items that exist on "Music" that do not exist at the same path on "Macintosh HD" will be left untouched.

Click the lock to make changes.

The free Carbon Copy Cloner can make both incremental and bootable backups of your system.

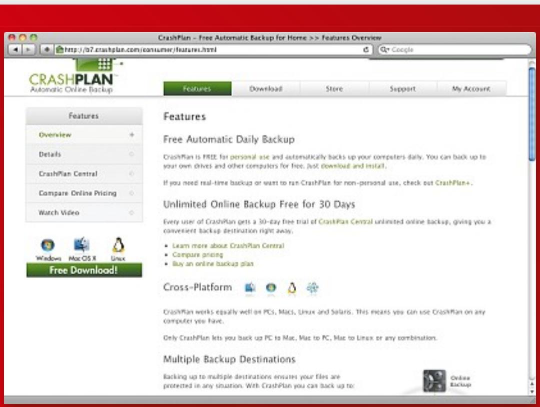
One drawback of *Time Machine* is that it doesn't make bootable backups, and so in an emergency all you can do is restore it to a hard drive. Some other applications, though, do enable you to make bootable backups, which you can then boot from an external drive on other Macs for the purposes of troubleshooting or testing systems. One such application is *SuperDuper!* ($27.95 from www.shirt-pocket.com). This deceptively simple program is actually very powerful and works on PPC and Intel Macs on OS X 10.4 and 10.5 right up to the latest version of 10.6, which is of course Intel-only. As well as scheduling, it also supports 'smart updating', which is essentially similar to the incremental features of *Time Machine*. Crucially, backups made with *SuperDuper!* are bootable, so you can store a fully bootable backup as well as a *Time Machine* backup and boot from it in the event of a problem. *Carbon Copy Cloner*, free donationware from www.bombich.com, also supports scheduling, incremental backups, backing up over a network and of course bootable backups. It's also simple to use and will provide you with a fully working clone of your system that can be booted from an external drive, should you run into difficulties. Users with older Macs as well as MobileMe subscribers might want to look at Apple's own venerable *Backup* application, although since it was superseded by *Time Machine*, OS X 10.6

» HOW TO / Make an online backup

If all your backup drives are in the same building, what happens if there's a fire or a flood? Or if they're all stolen? Hard drives aren't infallible either – they sometimes break. The answer is online backup, which is now becoming a serious alternative, with multiple gigabytes of online storage offered for very low prices or even for free.

CrashPlan, for example, (**www.crashplan.com**) will automatically back up some or all of your files as you wish on a daily basis, with unlimited file and backup sizes plus compression for better transfers and scheduling. There's also encryption available and it's free for personal use, with some ad support. If you prefer it without the ads you can upgrade to the Plus plan for a modest fee. Carbonite (**www.carbonite.com**) features scheduled incremental backups after you install a small application on your Mac.

There are a variety of online backup services to choose from – for a full round-up, see this issue's group test on page 106.


CrashPlan – Free Automatic Backup for Home >> Features Overview

http://b7.crashplan.com/consumer/features.html

Features

Free Automatic Daily Backup

CrashPlan is FREE for personal use and automatically backs up your computers daily. You can back up to your own drives and other computers for free. Just download and install.

If you need real-time backup or want to run CrashPlan for non-personal use, check out CrashPlan+.

Unlimited Online Backup Free for 30 Days

Every user of CrashPlan gets a 30-day free trial of CrashPlan Central unlimited online backup, giving you a convenient backup destination right away.

- Learn more about CrashPlan Central
- Compare pricing
- Buy an online backup plan

Cross-Platform

CrashPlan works equally well on PCs, Macs, Linux and Solaris. This means you can use CrashPlan on any computer you have.

Only CrashPlan lets you back up PC to Mac, Mac to PC, Mac to Linux or any combination.

Multiple Backup Destinations

Backing up to multiple destinations ensures your files are protected in any situation. With CrashPlan you can back up to:

With online backup services, backups are stored off-site.

HOW TO / Back up with SuperDuper!

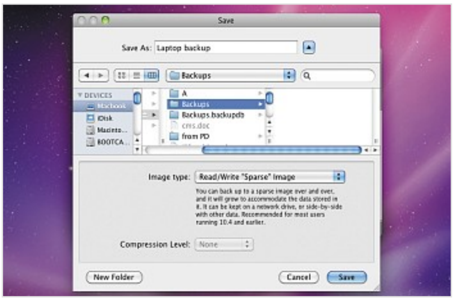


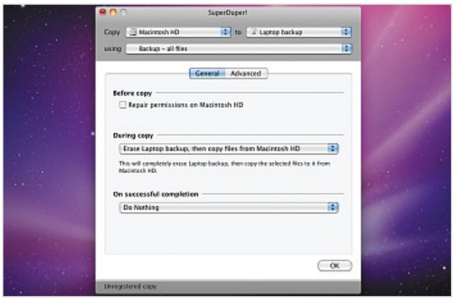
Image type: Read/Write "Sparse" Image

You can back up to a sparse image over and over, and it will grow to accommodate the data stored in it. It can be kept on a network drive, or side-by-side with other data. Recommended for most users running 10.4 and earlier.

Compression Level: None

01 Run the application

Download *SuperDuper!* and run it. From the **Copy** menu, choose a source volume. With your external hard drive connected, choose it in the **to** menu but only choose this option if the target drive or partition is ready to be erased. Otherwise, choose **Disk Image**.



Copy: Macintosh HD to: Laptop backup
using: Backup – all files

Before copy
☐ Repair permissions on Macintosh HD

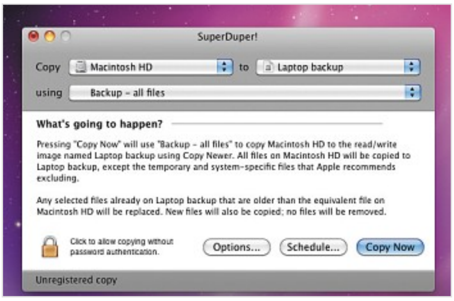
During copy
Erase Laptop backup, then copy files from Macintosh HD

This will completely erase Laptop backup, then copy the selected files to it from Macintosh HD.

On successful completion
Do Nothing

02 Choose an image type

In the **Image Type** menu, choose **Read/Write Sparse Bundle**. This creates a disk image that can be written to over and over again. Select the script called **Backup all files** and click **Options**. For a first backup, choose **Erase disk image and copy**. Finally, choose **Smart Update**.



Copy: Macintosh HD to: Laptop backup
using: Backup – all files

What's going to happen?

Pressing "Copy Now" will use "Backup – all files" to copy Macintosh HD to the read/write image named Laptop backup using Copy Newer. All files on Macintosh HD will be copied to Laptop backup, except the temporary and system-specific files that Apple recommends excluding.

Any selected files already on Laptop backup that are older than the equivalent file on Macintosh HD will be replaced. New files will also be copied; no files will be removed.

Click to allow copying without password authentication.

03 Perform the copy

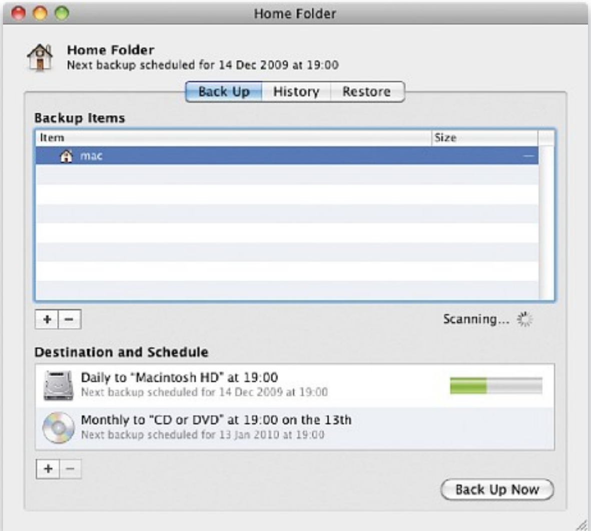
With the copy type selected, choose **Copy Now** and the files will be copied over. If you're worried about options that say they're going to erase anything, ensure you're using a blank disk or partition to copy to; that way you don't risk losing data on the target drive. ●

doesn't appear to be officially supported. That said, it seemed to work fine on our 10.6 MacBook. Other low cost or free backup applications include *iBackup* (free, **www.grapefruit.ch/iBackup**) which supports multiple sets of backups, scheduling, networked backups and smart folders; and also *Synkbackup* from **www.decimus.net**, which comes in various paid-for versions.

The reason it's so important to have a bootable backup of your OS X system is that in the event of a major problem, troubleshooting and first aid is far easier if you can boot a Mac from a working system. Booting from an OS X install DVD is fine for certain tasks but won't give you much access to the system. Booted from the DVD, you can run hardware checks on the Mac's internal hard drive, erase and reinstall the system and restore a *Time Machine* backup, amongst a few other things. But these latter two are quite drastic moves, for when all else has failed. They will invariably involve losing some data unless your latest *Time Machine* backup is very recent. Unless you have two Macs, a bootable system on an external drive can really save your bacon. Sometimes, for example, a bit of software will install a startup item or a library file that doesn't play nicely with your system; or a driver will cause a kernel panic. It's rare but not unheard of. Armed only with a system disc, you couldn't get at the hard drive to view or delete the offending files and would be forced to restore or reinstall. With a working bootable system, however, you can get the Mac back up and running by holding the ⌥ key during startup with the drive connected over USB2 or FireWire, and then select it as the boot system. Then you can locate and delete the offending items, run an uninstaller or temporarily move or rename folders to see if you can fix the problem.

> "With SuperDuper! you can store a bootable backup as well as a Time Machine backup, and boot from it in the event of a problem"

For environments where backing up is a more commercially sensitive area such as businesses, products like *Retrospect 8* might be worth considering. Far more advanced than *Time Machine*, this is designed to operate in a multi-platform, networked business environment and so while it's more than a home user would need, it could be perfect for a business. *Retrospect 8 for Mac* comes in several versions, priced from $85 to $1,250 depending on the number of client licenses included. It has features such as: support for backing up and restoring Windows, Linux and Mac clients; backup to optical disk, tape, NAS and SAN storage devices; support for bootable backups; compression during backup; server admin and AES-256 encryption. Clearly these are things that a business user would have much more use for than a home user, but they would also need a good technical knowledge.



Home Folder
Next backup scheduled for 14 Dec 2009 at 19:00

Daily to "Macintosh HD" at 19:00
Next backup scheduled for 14 Dec 2009 at 19:00

Monthly to "CD or DVD" at 19:00 on the 13th
Next backup scheduled for 13 Jan 2010 at 19:00

Apple's venerable Backup application is available for those Mac users running older systems.

Ideally, a conscientious user should run *Time Machine* regularly and something like *SuperDuper!* or *Carbon Copy Cloner* periodically – and certainly prior to performing major system updates – so that you have both instant access to your backed up files and folders, and a bootable system. Either a disk image or a full *Time Machine* backup can be restored to a hard drive in the event of a really serious problem. ●

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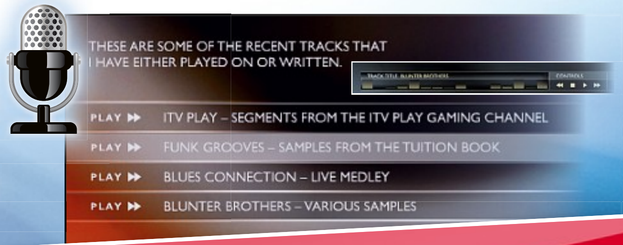

THESE ARE SOME OF THE RECENT TRACKS THAT I HAVE EITHER PLAYED ON OR WRITTEN.

PLAY ▶▶ ITV PLAY – SEGMENTS FROM THE ITV PLAY GAMING CHANNEL
PLAY ▶▶ FUNK GROOVES – SAMPLES FROM THE TUITION BOOK
PLAY ▶▶ BLUES CONNECTION – LIVE MEDLEY
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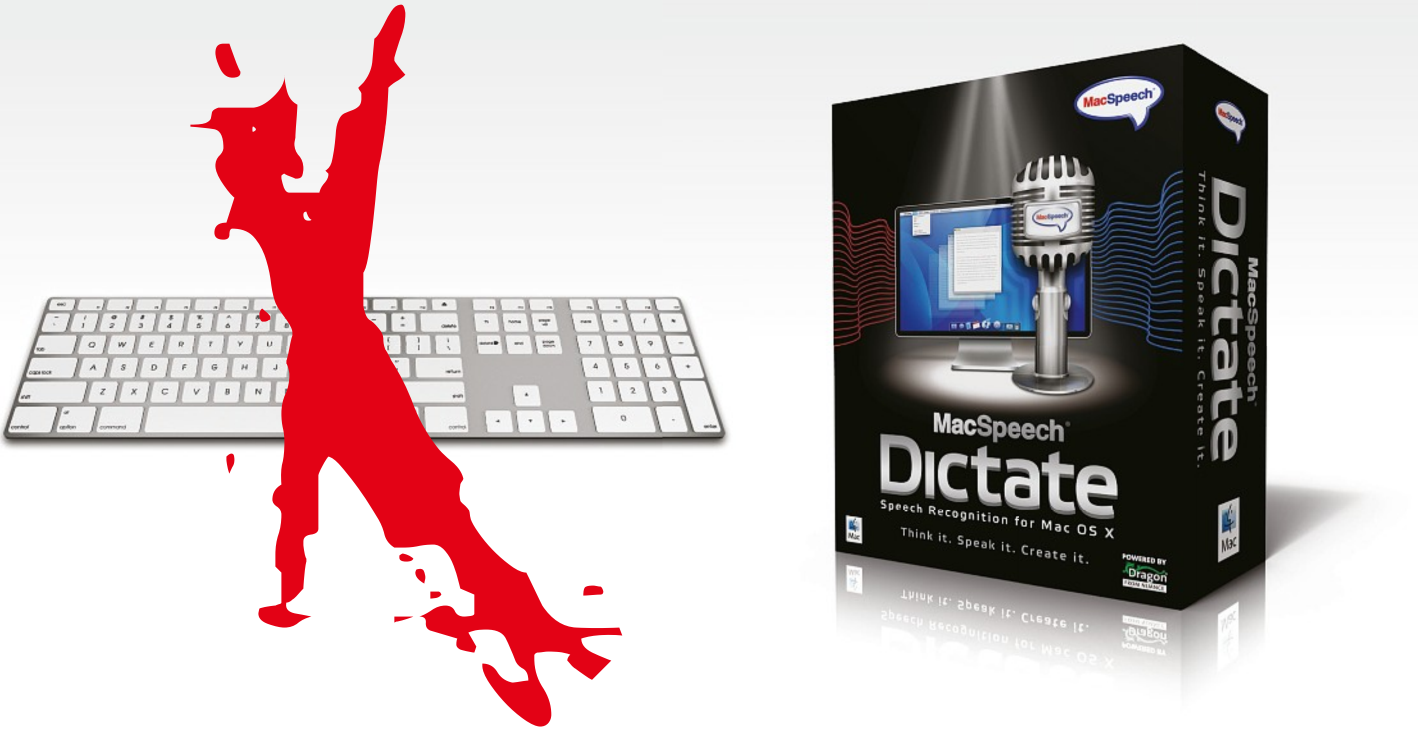
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Macintosh HD
Chart Growth
OS X Users
80
60
40
20
0
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Build In
Build Out
Action
Effect
None
Direction
Order
Delivery
Duration
Close Drawer
Build Order
Start Build
Delay
Chart
Edit Data...
Chart Colors...
Axis
Series
Value Axis (Y)
Choose Axis Options
Category Axis (X)

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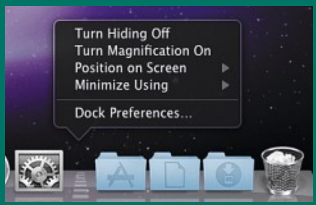
How to...

● PHOTOS ● MOVIES ● MUSIC ● OFFICE ● SYSTEM

Christopher Phin
Deputy Editor

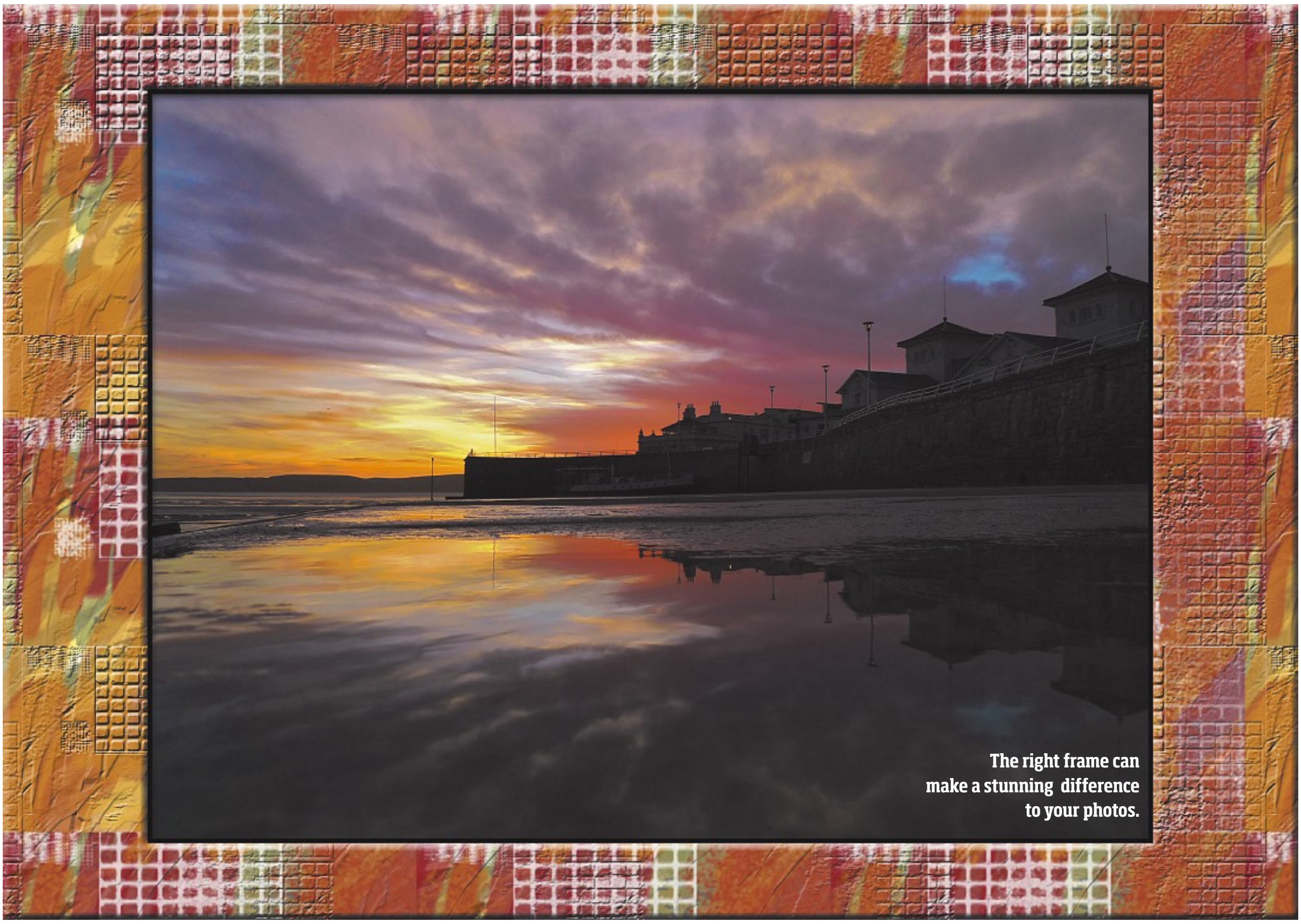
Apple makes such slick computers that we often don't think about the bits and pieces inside them that make them actually work. That's why we've created a little series – with the first one in this issue, and a few more in the months to come – where we take something apart to show you what it looks like inside, and how it works. For the first in our 'The anatomy of' series, we've taken apart a hard disk, so that you can see exactly what this curious box is that you trust all your data to. We've got a wishlist of more kit we want to disassemble, but if you have any ideas yourself – perhaps you've always been curious what you'd see if you prised a RAM stick open, for example – then be sure to drop me a line; my email address is **christopher.phin@futurenet.com**.

But, of course, we've also included *MacFormat* tutorials as well. We show you how to give your photos a little twist with some cool frames, how to master the exposure controls in *iPhoto*, and more. Be sure to check out Ian's guide to a utility that helps you turbo-charge your Magic Mouse – ideal if Santa was good to you!


Turn Hiding Off
Turn Magnification On
Position on Screen
Minimize Using
Dock Preferences...

>> DID YOU KNOW?

You can right-click on the dividing line between your apps and other items on your Dock to get access to some options for configuring its appearance and behaviour.



The right frame can make a stunning difference to your photos.

Create photo frames for prints

Create the perfect finishing touch for your images with a photo frame

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY: Intermediate

TIME NEEDED: 30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
Photoshop Elements
or Photoshop

Framing can make a huge difference to a photo's appearance. A simple black keyline around a mono print with a small caption will elevate it from a quick printout to a serious piece of artwork that demands attention.

There are a number of ways of creating frames in *Photoshop* and *Elements*, but one of the quickest and most flexible is to use layer styles. These apply borders (strokes), drop shadows, bevels, textures and other effects to the layer to create everything from a simple keyline to a 3D textured photo frame.

Elements layer styles are hidden away in the **Effects** palette (the second icon from the left). What you get is a selection of pre-designed styles you can just drag and drop onto your photos. You don't get the manual control that *Photoshop* provides, but you'll find you can still do more with them than you thought, as our tutorial explains.

We've based this tutorial around *Elements*, but it applies equally to *Photoshop*, though the processes for creating and modifying layer styles are slightly different. The extent of the crossover becomes obvious, though, when you compare *Elements'* **Effects** with *Photoshop's* preset **Styles**.

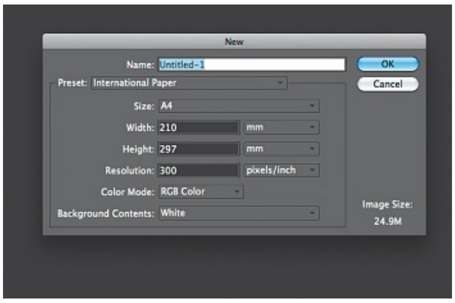
> "There are many ways to create frames, but one of the quickest and most flexible is to use layer styles"

Finally, while it's tempting to start with the photo and then design the frame around it, that's not the most effective approach. It means you end up juggling print sizes and resolutions at the end, and have trouble matching the aspect ratio of your image to the paper you want.

Instead, you should start with a document that matches the paper size and print resolution you want to use and then add the photo and the frame to fit that. It's much easier when you match the image to the media rather than trying to do it the other way round.

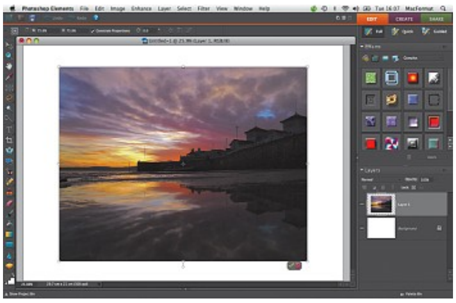
Rod Lawton

HOW TO / Frame your image in Photoshop or Photoshop Elements


New
Name: Untitled-1
Preset: International Paper
Size: A4
Width: 210 mm
Height: 297 mm
Resolution: 300 pixels/inch
Color Mode: RGB Color
Background Contents: White
Image Size: 24.9M

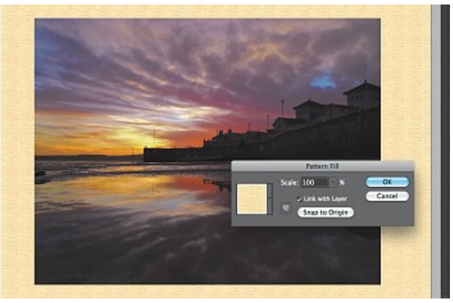
01 Create the document

First of all you'll need a *Photoshop* document the same size as the paper you want to print on, or, if you're trimming it to fit a frame, the picture inside the frame. Our picture's will be printed on an A4 sheet. We're using the default print resolution of 300dpi.



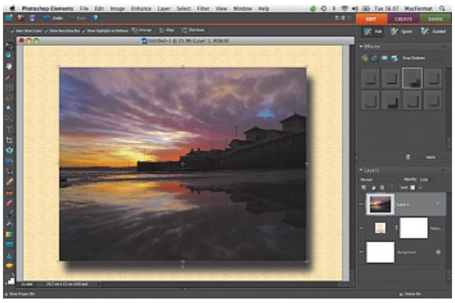
02 Add the photo

A4-sized *Photoshop* documents are created in a portrait format, so rotate it to horizontal. Next, add your picture by opening it up and then dragging it onto the document with the **Move** tool. Resize (drag on the corner handles) and reposition (drag from the centre).


Pattern Fill
Scale: 100 %
Link with Layer
Snap to Origin
OK
Cancel

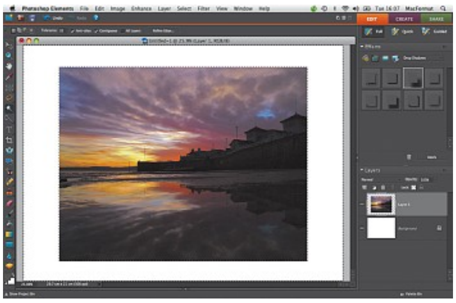
03 Style the background

The simplest way to create a frame is to add colour or texture to the background layer. Select this layer and then choose an adjustment layer to go above it. This could be solid colour or a **Pattern Fill**. There are several patterns to choose from, so pick one that suits the image.



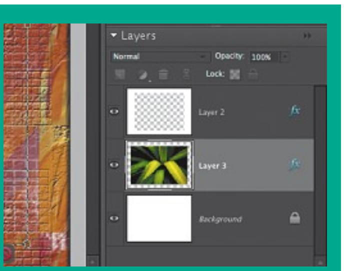
04 Add a drop shadow

Make the photo stand out from the background with a drop shadow. Do this manually in *Photoshop* by using a **Layer Style**, or in *Elements* by choosing **Drop Shadows** from the menu in the **Effects** palette, then choosing a shadow style and drag it onto the photo layer.



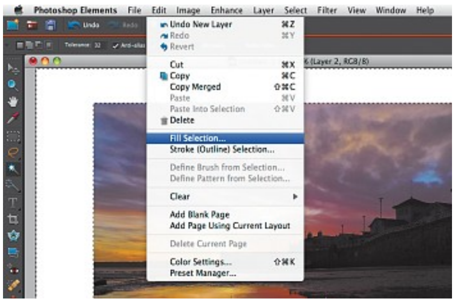
05 Select the border

Create sophisticated framing effects by making a border for the photo on a new layer. With the photo layer selected, click on the blank area outside it with the **Magic Wand** tool. (Make sure **All Layers** is deselected on the options panel or hide the background layer first.)


Layers
Normal
Opacity: 100%
Lock:
Layer 2
Layer 3
Background

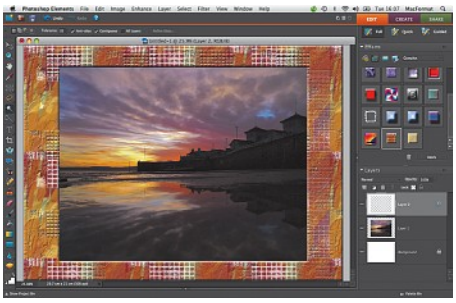
QUICK TIP

If you want to reuse a border effect you've created, delete the photo layer and save. To reuse it, add the new photo as a new layer, then position it between the background and the frame layer and resize/reposition the photo as necessary.


Photoshop Elements
File
Edit
Image
Enhance
Layer
Select
Filter
View
Window
Help
Undo New Layer ⌘Z
Redo ⌘Y
Revert
Cut ⌘X
Copy ⌘C
Copy Merged ⇧⌘C
Paste ⌘V
Paste Into Selection ⇧⌘V
Delete
Fill Selection...
Stroke (Outline) Selection...
Define Brush from Selection...
Define Pattern from Selection...
Clear
Add Blank Page
Add Page Using Current Layout
Delete Current Page
Color Settings... ⇧⌘K
Preset Manager...

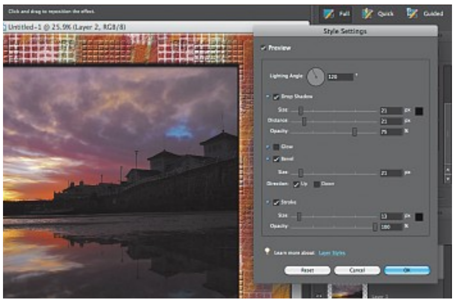
06 Create a 'frame' layer

With the selection still active, create a new layer above the photo layer, then use the Edit > Fill Selection command. It doesn't matter what colour you choose because you can use *Elements'* **Effects** to create the frame. (In *Photoshop*, these are **Layer Styles**.)



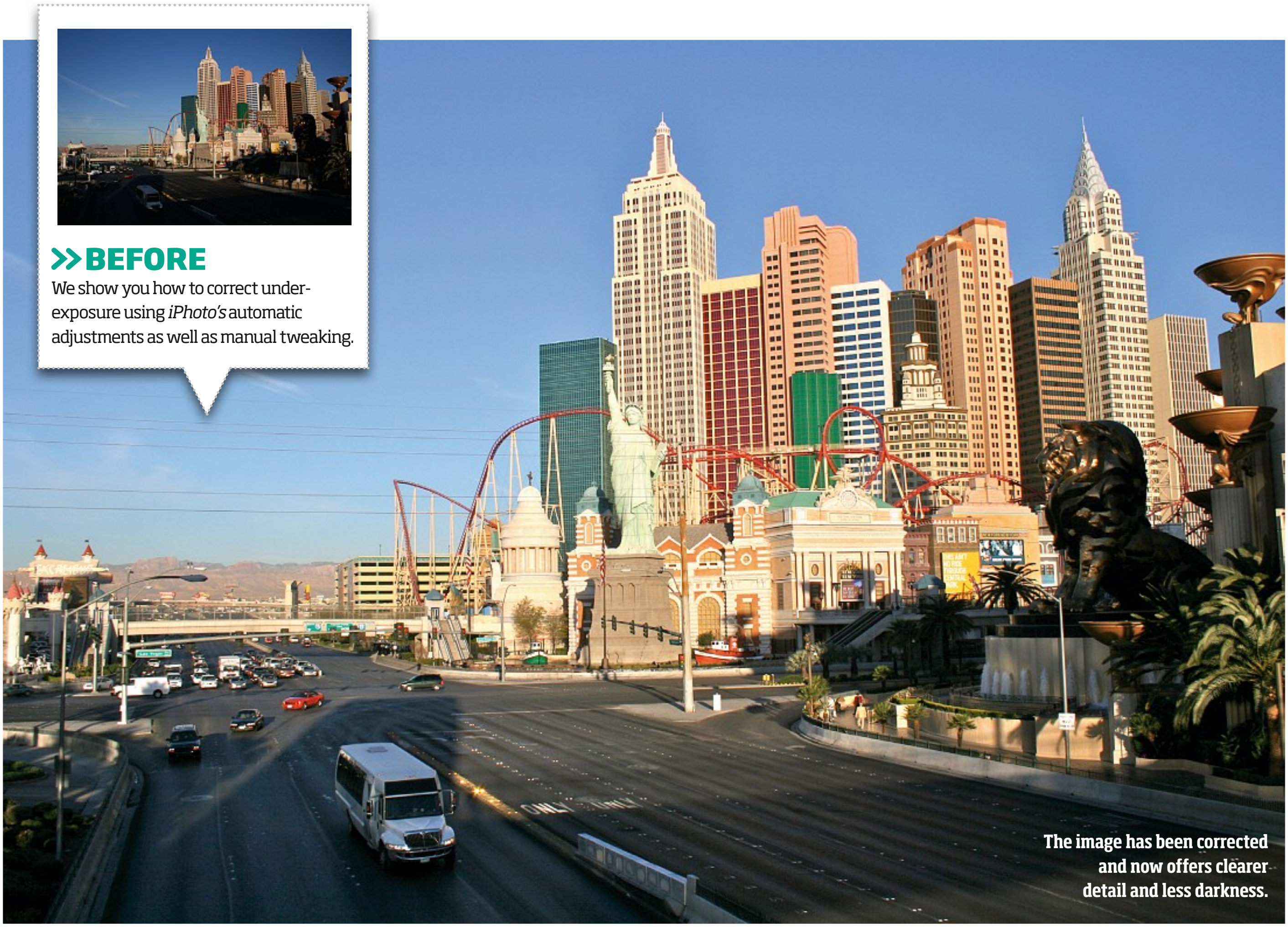
07 Applying Effects

In the **Effects** palette, choose **Complex** from the drop-down menu. Now choose an **Effect** and drag its thumbnail onto this new 'frame' layer. These complex effects consist of combinations of bevels, textures, gradients and shadows, which produce realistic 3D effects.


Style Settings
Preview
Lighting Angle
Drop Shadow
Glow
Bevel
Stroke
Reset
Cancel
OK

08 Modifying Effects

It may look as if these are simply off-the-peg effects. But if you double-click the f icon next to the layer thumbnail, *Elements* displays its **Style Settings** dialog where you can make some changes. We've added a 13-pixel black stroke to produce a keyline border. ●



» BEFORE
We show you how to correct under-exposure using *iPhoto's* automatic adjustments as well as manual tweaking.

The image has been corrected and now offers clearer detail and less darkness.

Use iPhoto's exposure controls

iPhoto 09's tonal adjustments can still be very confusing, even now...

» KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY: Intermediate

TIME NEEDED: 30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
iPhoto '09 (£71, part of iLife '09 http://store.apple.com/uk)

The exposure adjustment tools you get in *iPhoto '09* can be very effective, but it's not that easy to figure out what each one does, how they work alongside the rest and which is the best one to use for your particular image.

One source of confusion is the histogram display at the top of the Adjust panel. If you've used the Levels dialog in *Photoshop* or *Elements*, or indeed any other image-editing program, this looks straightforward. There is one key difference, though – when you make adjustments to the black point or white point sliders, the midtone slider stays where it is. This midtone slider is also, in effect, *iPhoto's* 'brightness' adjustment. There is no separate brightness slider in *iPhoto*, and the Exposure slider is not quite the same thing, as we'll see.

Another tool that could lead to confusion is the Enhance option on the toolbar. This produces an instant fix by automatically adjusting some of the key controls on the Adjust panel… but not all of them. Clicking Enhance will set the white point and black point on the histogram. It may also add shadow adjustment (lightening), depending on the image, and a modest saturation increase. It won't adjust the Exposure and Contrast sliders. What's more, if you change the Exposure and Contrast manually, using the Enhance button later won't reset them.

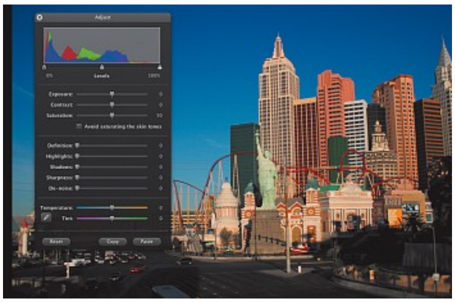
> *"Although Exposure and Contrast seem like a starting point for adjustments, they're not always necessary"*

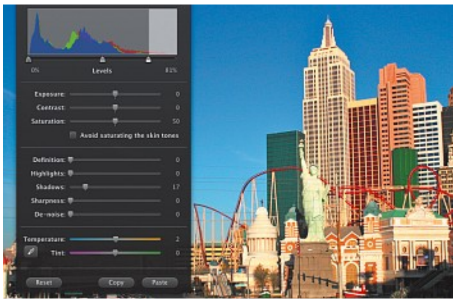
Although the Exposure and Contrast sliders seem like a starting point for manual adjustments, they're not always necessary.

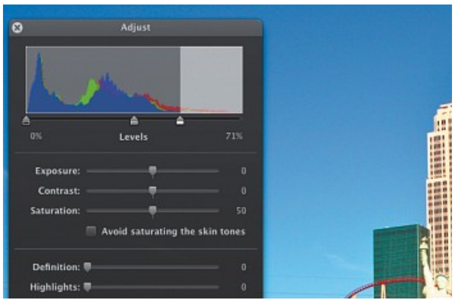
Our walkthrough shows how to use the enhancement options to fix a tricky image, but we don't use the Exposure and Contrast sliders. Instead, we'll show how you might use these in different circumstances in the final two steps.

Rod Lawton

HOW TO / Improve exposure in your images







0%
71%
Exposure: 0
Contrast: 0
Saturation: 50
Definition: 0
Highlights: 0

01 Before enhancement

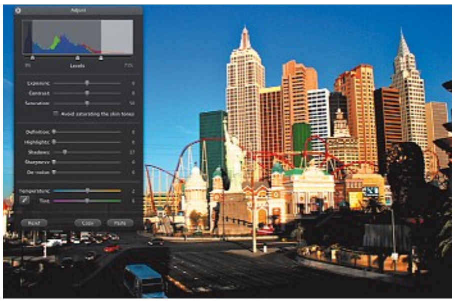
We've chosen this image because it demonstrates classic exposure problems. One is general underexposure, but there are also bright highlight areas that would be lost with too big a brightness increase. There are also dense shadow areas that need lightening up.

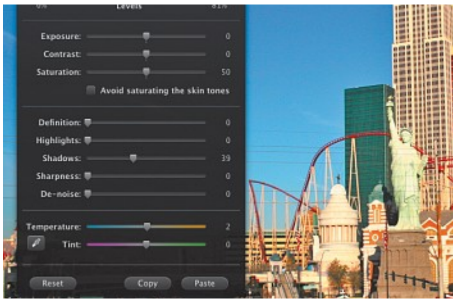
02 After enhancement

Clicking **Enhance** makes a huge difference. The **Adjust** panel has been left open so you can see has been done. It's moved the white-point slider under the histogram to the left to increase the brightness and it's applied a shadow adjustment to lighten the shadows.

03 White-point adjustments

You can manually adjust further. Drag the white-point slider further to the left to lighten the picture more, but note this 'clips' the image highlights on the right of the histogram. You'll often face a choice between brightening the image and preserving highlight details.





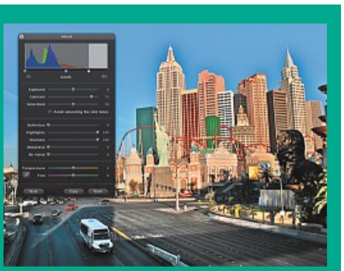
Exposure: 0
Contrast: 0
Saturation: 50
Definition: 0
Highlights: 0
Shadows: 39
Sharpness: 0
De-noise: 0
Temperature: 2
Tint: 0

04 Black-point adjustment

This image doesn't need black-point adjustment because the slider lines up with the end of the histogram. If we move the slider to the right we 'clip' the shadows and our photo displays areas of black. Adjusting the black point is useful for photos with weak shadows.

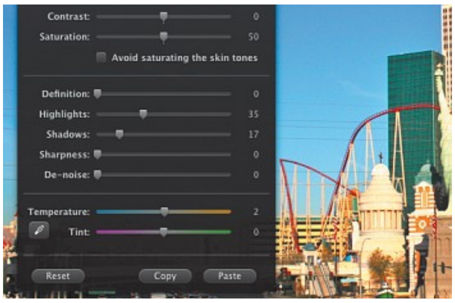
05 Shadow adjustment

iPhoto's automatic enhancement applied shadow adjustment, so they are lighter. Increasing the value of the **Shadows** slider lightens them more. *iPhoto* works similarly to the **Shadow/Highlight** tool in *Photoshop* and *Elements*, selecting and lightening dark tones.

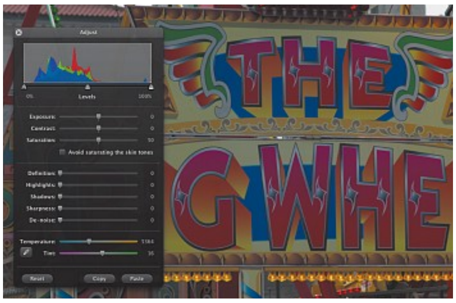


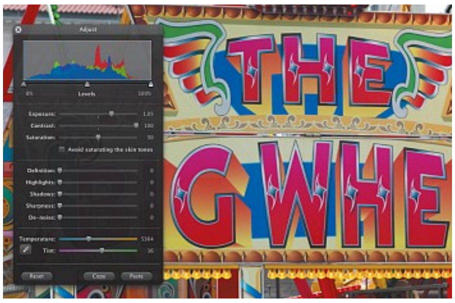
QUICK TIP

iPhoto's **Shadow** and **Highlight** adjustments are good at balancing light and dark areas of a photo, but if you push them too far you can start to see obvious masking effects, visible here as a dark glow around the tops of the skyscrapers.



Contrast: 0
Saturation: 50
Definition: 0
Highlights: 35
Shadows: 17
Sharpness: 0
De-noise: 0
Temperature: 2
Tint: 0





06 Highlight adjustment

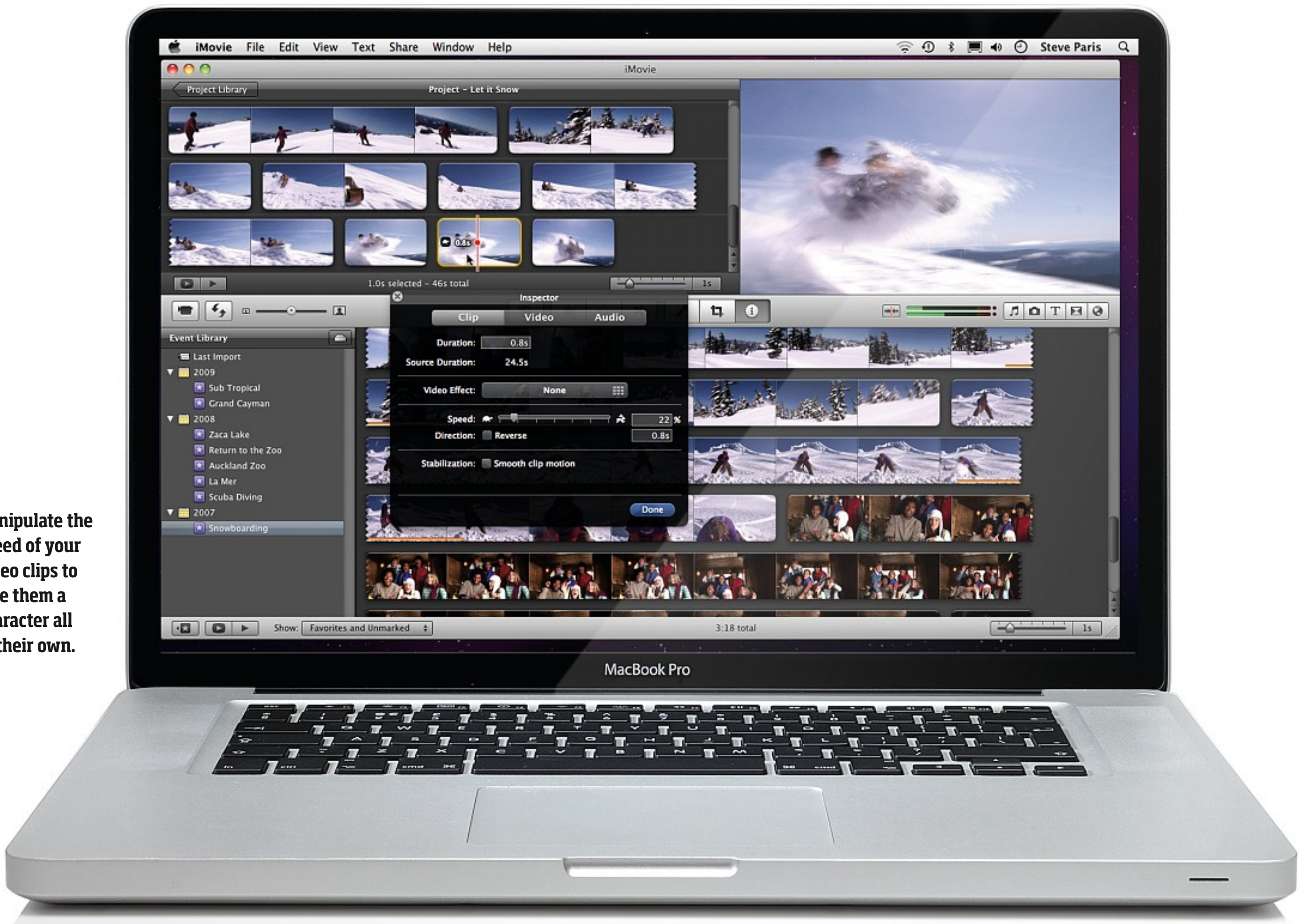
iPhoto doesn't apply **Highlight** adjustments automatically, but you can do it manually. This slider tones down bright areas to reveal more detail. It's useful for extracting more highlight detail from RAW files, or for recovering highlights lost by other adjustments.

07 Exposure

Let's change image to show the **Exposure** and **Contrast** sliders. This RAW image was shot in low-contrast light, so has a narrow histogram. Move the black-point/white-point sliders to line up with the ends of the histogram, or stretch the histogram instead...

08 Contrast

Increase the **Contrast** value to widen the histogram; then increase the **Exposure** to shift the histogram to the right filling the width. The **Contrast** and **Exposure** sliders can be useful when working with RAW files, which have a wider dynamic range than JPEGS. ●


iMovie File Edit View Text Share Window Help
Steve Paris
Project Library
Project – Let it Snow
1.0s selected – 46s total
Inspector
Clip Video Audio
Event Library
Last Import
2009
Sub Tropical
Grand Cayman
2008
Zaca Lake
Return to the Zoo
Auckland Zoo
La Mer
Scuba Diving
2007
Snowboarding
Done
Show: Favorites and Unmarked
3:18 total
MacBook Pro

Duration: 0.8s
Source Duration: 24.5s
Video Effect: None
Speed: 22 %
Direction: ☐ Reverse 0.8s
Stabilization: ☐ Smooth clip motion

Manipulate the speed of your video clips to give them a character all of their own.

Alter the speed of a clip

Speeding up or slowing down a clip can make it more comedic or dramatic

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY:
Basic

TIME NEEDED:
25 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:
iMovie 8.0.5 or later, footage from a camera already catalogued in an Event or iPhoto, a basic understanding of the interface

Editing a short film with *iMovie* usually involves adding clips from one or more Events into your project, fine-tuning those edits, doing a spot of colour correction, adding a few titles and maybe even selecting a theme to add some unique transitions to your work.

However, sometimes a particular sequence happens too fast for it to be fully appreciated, or you may wish to speed up a section of your road trip, as if you were fast-forwarding through a particular moment in time. This is something *iMovie* has always been able to do (as long as you discount the version that came with *iLife '08*, that is).

Slowing down footage will of course make it play in slow motion, which can make the moment of action appear more dramatic. You can even freeze the action on a particular frame, turning that part of your video into a still image, to further emphasise the moment.

It's just as easy to speed things up too. Common uses for this include heightening a comedic moment, turning something mundane into a funny sequence, or illustrating the passage of time. You even have the option of reversing your footage to make your clip go backwards. Again, you have full control: you can play it backwards in slow motion, faster or at its usual speed.

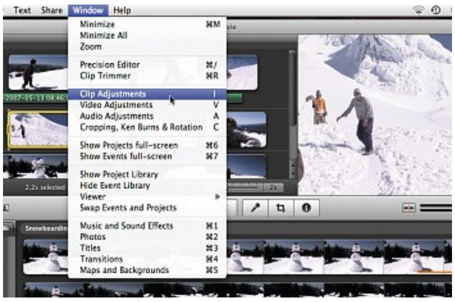
> *"You can freeze the action on a particular frame, turning that part of your video into a photograph"*

You can choose how fast or slow you want your clip to go by selecting a position on a slider. You can also type in the speed in an appropriate field. This last option offers you much greater control over your clip.

We'll be looking at all these options through the course of this tutorial to give you an idea of what you can achieve with Apple's latest version of *iMovie*. So launch the program and open up one of your existing projects, or create a new one from scratch, and let's get started.

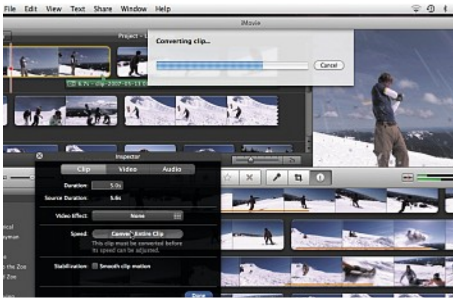
Steve Paris

HOW TO / Change the speed of a video clip


Text Share Window Help
Minimize ⌘M
Minimize All
Zoom
Precision Editor ⌘/
Clip Trimmer ⌘R
Clip Adjustments I
Video Adjustments V
Audio Adjustments A
Cropping, Ken Burns & Rotation C
Show Projects full-screen ⌘6
Show Events full-screen ⌘7
Show Project Library
Hide Event Library
Viewer
Swap Events and Projects
Music and Sound Effects ⌘1
Photos ⌘2
Titles ⌘3
Transitions ⌘4
Maps and Backgrounds ⌘5

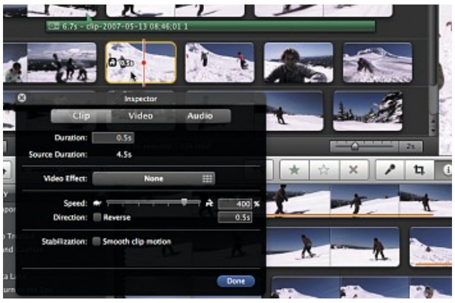
01 Reveal the Inspector

Select a clip to alter from your current project. You can reveal the **Inspector** using one of five ways: double-click the clip; hit the I key; go to Window > Clip Adjustments; click on the toolbar's 'i' button; or select the clip's cog wheel button and choose **Clip Adjustments**.


Converting clip...
Cancel
Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Convert Entire Clip

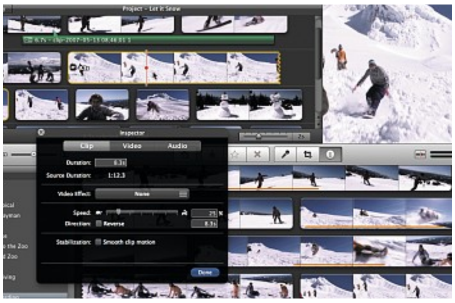
02 Analyse footage

As with the **Stabilisation** feature, you cannot alter your clip's speed until *iMovie* has analysed it. To do this, click on the **Convert Entire Clip** button. A progress bar will appear. Once it's done, the button is replaced by all the speed adjustment tools.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Duration: 0.5s
Source Duration: 4.5s
Video Effect: None
Speed: 400 %
Direction: Reverse
0.5s
Stabilization: Smooth clip motion
Done

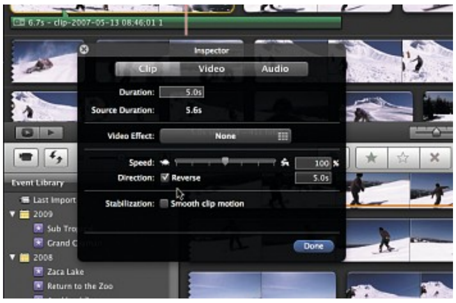
03 Speeding up

Move the slider to the right to speed up your footage. The clip's duration gets shorter as you drag the slider and its length is shrunk in your project as the action moves faster. Beneath the percentage value to the slider's right is the current duration of your clip.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Duration: 6.3s
Source Duration: 1:12.3
Video Effect: None
Speed: 25 %
Direction: Reverse
Stabilization: Smooth clip motion
Done

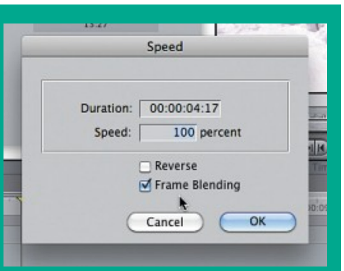
04 Slowing down

Move the slider to the left and the action slows down. As you play your footage back, the video will seem to stutter: this is because the same frame is used more than once to stretch out the duration. Use the arrow keys to progress one frame at a time.


6.7s – clip-2007-05-13 08:46:01 1
Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Duration: 5.0s
Source Duration: 5.6s
Video Effect: None
Speed: 100 %
Direction: ☑ Reverse
5.0s
Stabilization: ☐ Smooth clip motion
Done
Event Library
Last Import
2009
2008
Zaca Lake
Return to the Zoo

05 Running backwards

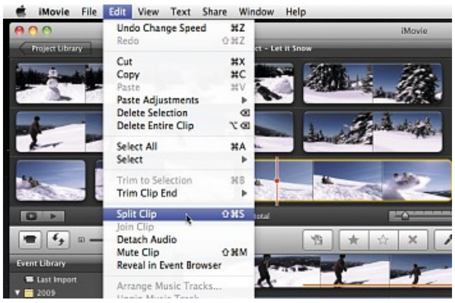
The speed tool also enables you to play your footage backwards. In order to do this, tick the **Reverse** box (below the slider). This option works in conjunction with the **Speed** slider, so you can easily play your clip backwards in slow motion or at high speeds.


Speed
Cancel
OK

Duration: 00:00:04:17
Speed: 100 percent
☐ Reverse
☑ Frame Blending

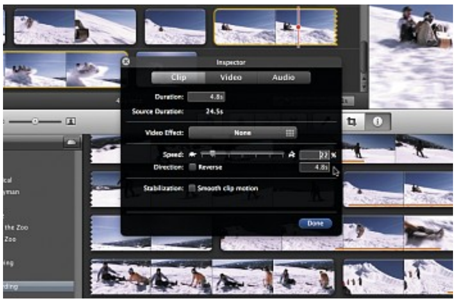
QUICK TIP

If the stuttering in slowed down footage isn't to your liking and you work a lot in video, consider getting *Final Cut Express* – its speed tools enable you to blend the frames together to create new ones, making slow motion effects a lot smoother.


iMovie File Edit View Text Share Window Help
Undo Change Speed ⌘Z
Redo ⇧⌘Z
Cut ⌘X
Copy ⌘C
Paste ⌘V
Paste Adjustments
Delete Selection
Delete Entire Clip
Select All ⌘A
Select
Trim to Selection ⌘B
Trim Clip End
Split Clip ⇧⌘S
Join Clip
Detach Audio
Mute Clip ⇧⌘M
Reveal in Event Browser
Arrange Music Tracks...
Project Library
Event Library
Last Import
2009

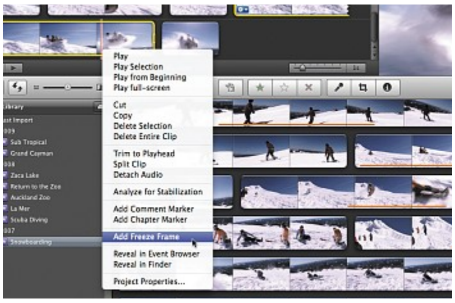
06 Split one clip into three

Mouse over your footage; once you've found the point at which you want to split it, use the ⇧+⌘+S keyboard shortcut. Do this once more and double-click the middle section. Slow it down by typing a value in either the percentage or duration fields.


Inspector
Clip
Video
Audio
Duration: 4.8s
Source Duration: 24.5s
Video Effect: None
Speed:
Direction: Reverse
Stabilization: Smooth clip motion
Done

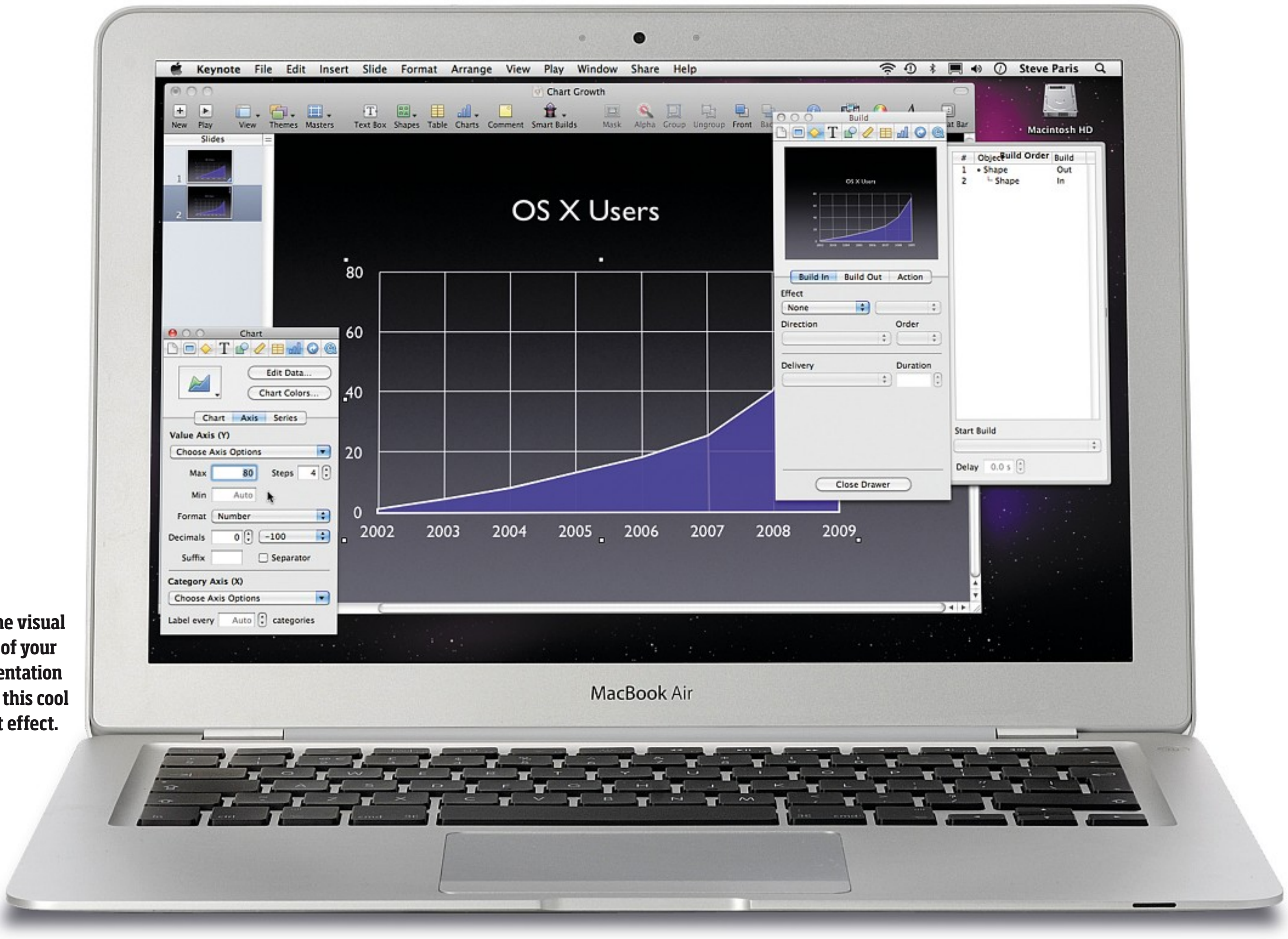
07 Precision control

You'll notice that using the numerical fields enables you to have much more control over clip speed. You can also go beyond the slider's limits, slowing a clip down to 5% or increasing it by as much as 2000%. Choose a speed of your choice.


Play
Play Selection
Play from Beginning
Play full-screen
Cut
Copy
Delete Selection
Delete Entire Clip
Trim to Playhead
Split Clip
Detach Audio
Analyze for Stabilization
Add Comment Marker
Add Chapter Marker
Add Freeze Frame
Reveal in Event Browser
Reveal in Finder
Project Properties...

08 Freeze frame

ctrl-click in or near the middle of that clip. Choose **Make Freeze Frame**. Alter its duration by going to the **Clip Adjustments** window and changing the **Duration** value. Play your footage and it will slow down, stop, then slowly accelerate to its regular speed. ●


Keynote File Edit Insert Slide Format Arrange View Play Window Share Help
Steve Paris
Chart Growth
OS X Users
80
60
40
20
0
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
Chart
Edit Data...
Chart Colors...
Value Axis (Y)
Category Axis (X)
Build
Build In
Build Out
Action
Close Drawer
Build Order
Start Build
Macintosh HD
MacBook Air

Up the visual ante of your presentation with this cool chart effect.

Create better Keynote effects

Use the animation feature creatively to achieve an impressive transition

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY: Intermediate

TIME NEEDED: 30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Keynote 5.0.3 or later (£71, part of iWork '09, store.apple.com/uk), a basic understanding of the interface, some data to add to a chart

Did you catch the keynote of the 2009 World Wide Developer's Conference that took place last June? If so, you may have noticed that around three minutes into the presentation Apple's Senior Vice President of Worldwide Product Marketing, Phil Schiller, did an impressive transition that involved resizing the scale of a chart while extending it to reveal a further two columns. He claimed that this effect had been performed with the help of Magic Move.

However, if you tried to replicate this action yourself, you would have been disappointed: the Magic Move capabilities of *Keynote '09* cannot do what Phil did. He was obviously using a beta of the next version (or maybe Apple just keeps the best effects for its staff). But don't let this convince you to buy the next *iWork* version whenever it's released: with a little bit of tweaking, you can approximate the transition effect to the current *Keynote*, and dazzle your audience.

If you were to try to resize a chart using Magic Move, *Keynote* wouldn't recognise the next chart as the same object from the previous slide and would simply fade out the first one and fade in the other. In order to make it appear that the chart shrinks, you'll be using some of *Keynote*'s other tools, creating objects that are recognised by Magic Move and that will grow, shrink, move and rotate as expected.

> *"With a little bit of tweaking, you can approximate the transition effect to dazzle your audience"*

Once done, you will then have to create special build animations and set them to occur at the same time. It's obviously nowhere near as easy had Magic Move been just a little bit more powerful, but if you have a little time on your hands, this effect can look surprisingly effective. So launch *Keynote* and create a new presentation (or open the one you're currently working on), and let's see how far we can push this program.
Steve Paris

HOW TO / Create an eye-popping transition

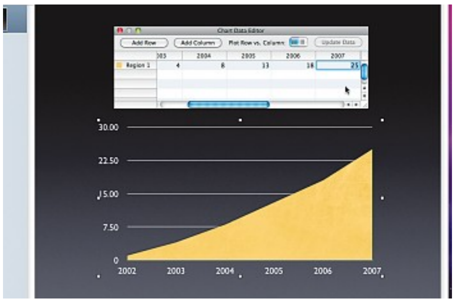
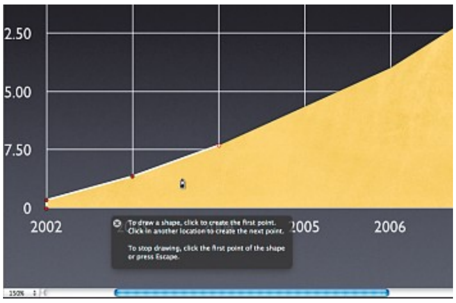


Chart Data Editor
Add Row
Add Column
Plot Row vs. Column
Update Data
2004
2005
2006
2007
Region 1
30.00
22.50
15.00
7.50
0
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007

01 Create a chart

Go to Insert > Chart and select either **Area** or **Stacked Area**. Doing this opens up the **Chart Data Editor** window. Remove the values from the 'Region 2' row and modify 'Region 1' to suit your own information. You'll be using the area created by those numbers as a guide.

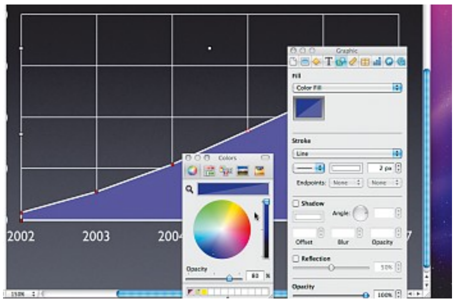

2.50
5.00
7.50
0
2002
2005
2006

To draw a shape, click to create the first point. Click in another location to create the next point.

To stop drawing, click the first point of the shape or press Escape.

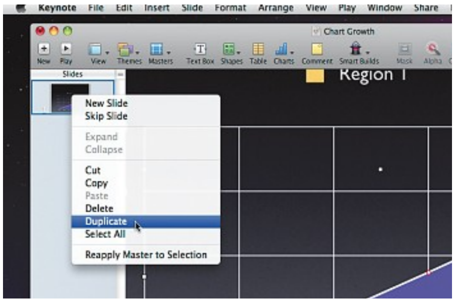
02 Mirror a shape

You now need to mirror the area using a shape: go to Insert > Shape > Draw With Pen. You may need to use the **Zoom In** keyboard shortcut (⇧+⌘+.) should you need to be very precise. Click along the area at each point along the chart to create an outline.


Graphic
Fill
Color Fill
Stroke
Line
Endpoints
Shadow
Angle
Offset
Blur
Opacity
Reflection
Colors
Opacity
2002
2003
2004

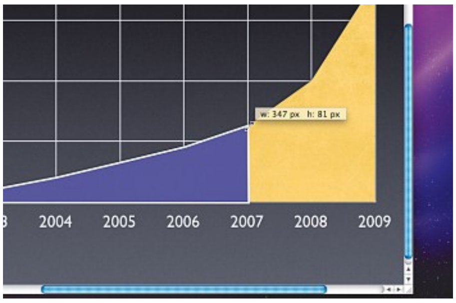
03 Add some colour

Reveal the **Inspector** (View > Show Inspector) and select the **Graphic** tab (fifth from the left). With the shape highlighted, select the **Fill** pop-up menu and choose **Colour Fill**. Click on the colour well to reveal the **Colour Palette** window and pick a shade more to your liking.


Keynote
File
Edit
Insert
Slide
Format
Arrange
View
Play
Window
Share
Chart Growth
Slides
Region 1
New Slide
Skip Slide
Expand
Collapse
Cut
Copy
Paste
Delete
Duplicate
Select All
Reapply Master to Selection

04 Initiate the Magic Move

ctrl-click on the slide in the **Sidebar** to the left of the large preview area and select **Duplicate** from the contextual menu. Click on the first slide again and go to the **Inspector**'s **Slide** tab (second from the left). Select **Magic Move** from the **Effect** pop-up menu.


w: 347 px h: 81 px
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009

05 Alter the chart

Go to the second slide. Select the chart and use the **Chart Data Editor** window to add a couple more columns to it. Next, select the shape you created and resize it so that it matches the new size of the original area it was mirroring (those before the added values).

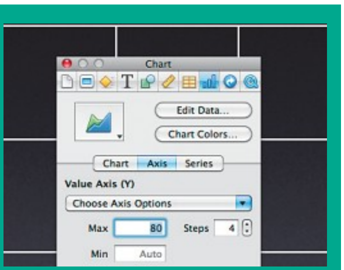
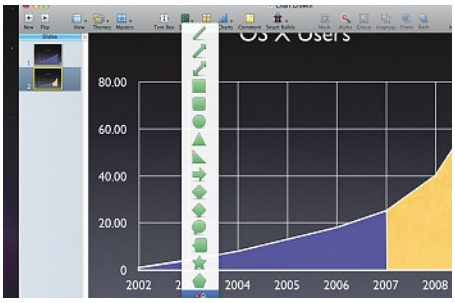


Chart
Edit Data...
Chart Colors...
Chart
Axis
Series
Value Axis (Y)
Choose Axis Options
Max
80
Steps
4
Min
Auto

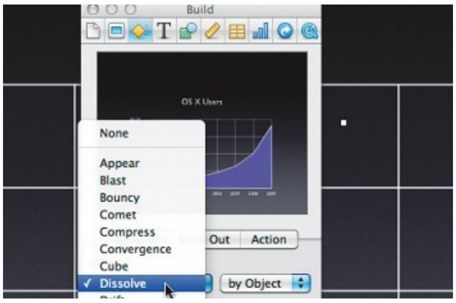
QUICK TIP

Removing the values from your chart will alter its labels, but you can set them manually in the **Chart Inspector**: select the **Axis** tab and in the **Value Axis** section, set the **Max** value you need. A number of other chart options are also on offer.


OS X Users
80.00
60.00
40.00
20.00
0
2002
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008

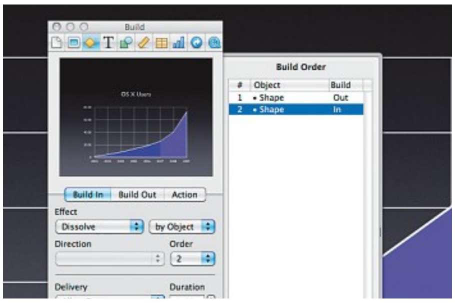
06 Create a new shape

Create a new shape as per Step 2, only this time, mirror the entire new area. Again, add a **Colour Fill** to it (which should automatically add the same colour you selected in Step 3). You now need to make one shape disappear as the other one is revealed to complete the effect.


Build
OS X Users
None
Appear
Blast
Bouncy
Comet
Compress
Convergence
Cube
✓ Dissolve
Out
Action
by Object

07 Time to dissolve

Highlight the first, smaller area, go to the **Inspector** and select the **Build tab**. Select the **Build Out** section and choose **Dissolve** from the **Effect** pop-up menu. Repeat the procedure for the larger area, only this time add the **Dissolve** effect to the **Build In** section.


Build
Build Order
#
Object
Build
1
• Shape
Out
2
• Shape
In
Build In
Build Out
Action
Effect
Dissolve
by Object
Direction
Order
2
Delivery
Duration

08 Build options

Click the **More Options** button in the **Build Inspector**. Select the second item in the list and choose **Automatically with Build 1** from the **Start Build** pop-up menu. Highlight the chart and remove all values from the **Chart Data Editor**. Finally, repeat for the first slide. ●

DRIVEN

"When you've gone to hell and back to get a shot, losing it would be like purgatory."

Tim Flach Photography | www.timflach.com

Tim F

G|DRIVE

Professional External Hard Drive

appletell
ááááá

Award-winning photographer Tim Flach doesn't compromise. He's driven to brave extremes of temperature, wind and altitude, waiting patiently until the conditions are just so. Then there are the animals to contend with. Known particularly for his conceptual fine art portraits of horses, Tim's subjects are skittish and uncooperative, so his window of opportunity is often tiny.

Getting the perfect shot is only half the story. Getting it home and keeping it safe is the other. He uses a USB-powered G-DRIVE mini to store his images on location, and a fast, ultra-reliable 2TB G-DRIVE in the studio to back up his work during the painstaking retouching process.

Tim Flach's drive doesn't compromise.

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Tim Flach trusts his creativity to G-Technology drives. Find out more at **G-Technology.eu**

Master MagicPrefs

Get more from your Magic Mouse with this great free application

» ON THE DISC
You can find *MagicPrefs 1.5* on the disc.

» KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY: Beginner

TIME NEEDED: 5 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: OS X 10.5 or later, Magic Mouse, MagicPrefs

Apple's new Magic Mouse can recognise four points of contact on its touch-sensitive surface, but only two-fingered gestures are catered for by default. Don't take this personally though, because there's a great new application that helps you get the most out of your Magic Mouse by adding new gestures, three- and four-fingered taps and clicks!

MagicPrefs is a free download, which can be found at **www.tinyurl.com/yjecohb**. Once you've run it for the first time, it appears as a *System Preferences* pane or you can manage it through an optional menu bar icon too. From the new preferences window, your Magic Mouse can be configured to do far more than is possible using the standard *System Preferences* pane for mouse input.

At the top of the *MagicPrefs* window sits two slider bars. The **Tracking Speed** slider performs the same task as the **Tracking** slider in *System Preferences*, but increases the maximum available speed by 200%. According to the program's website, the **Tap Sensitivity** bar 'implements an advanced algorithm that impacts a number of factors used to determine taps.'

> *"Configure your Magic Mouse to do far more than is possible using the standard System Preferences pane"*

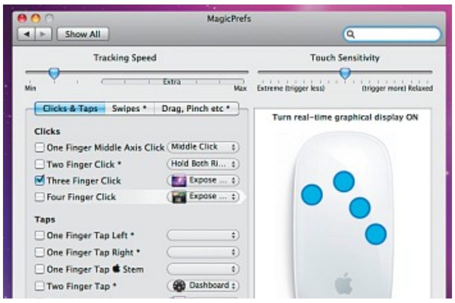
The **Clicks & Taps** panel offers pull-down options that you can activate using your single- or multiple-fingered gestures. A click involves pressing the mouse button with the required number of fingers touching the surface of the device. A tap has you touching the device without pressing the button. You don't have to enable them all, of course – if a specific gesture is getting in the way by being activated accidentally, simply uncheck it. The really exciting news is that the very latest version of *MagicPrefs* adds support for swipe gestures, as well as two- and three-fingered pinches, both inwards and outwards. It's incredibly comprehensive, and easy to set up.

When you've configured the mouse to your requirements, you can save your settings as a preset, enabling you to store different custom settings for different tasks.

Ian Osborne

The MagicPrefs app helps you get more from your Magic Mouse.

» HOW TO / Configure your Magic Mouse using MagicPrefs



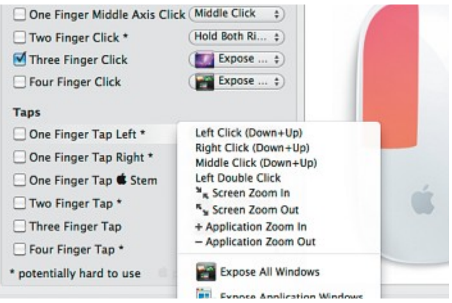
MagicPrefs
Show All
Tracking Speed
Min
Extra
Max
Touch Sensitivity
Extreme (trigger less)
(trigger more) Relaxed
Clicks & Taps
Swipes *
Drag, Pinch etc *
Turn real-time graphical display ON

Clicks
☐ One Finger Middle Axis Click – Middle Click
☐ Two Finger Click * – Hold Both Ri...
☑ Three Finger Click – Expose ...
☐ Four Finger Click – Expose ...

Taps
☐ One Finger Tap Left *
☐ One Finger Tap Right *
☐ One Finger Tap Stem
☐ Two Finger Tap * – Dashboard

01 The slider bars

The slider bars control **Tracking Speed** and **Touch Sensitivity**. Using *MagicPrefs'* real-time graphical display as a guide, find the settings you feel most comfortable with. If you wish, you can save multiple presets, matching your mouse configuration to specific tasks.



☐ One Finger Middle Axis Click – Middle Click
☐ Two Finger Click * – Hold Both Ri...
☑ Three Finger Click – Expose ...
☐ Four Finger Click – Expose ...

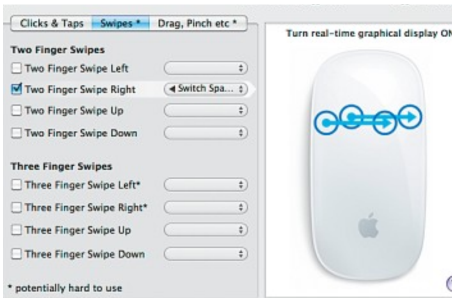
Taps
☐ One Finger Tap Left *
☐ One Finger Tap Right *
☐ One Finger Tap Stem
☐ Two Finger Tap *
☐ Three Finger Tap
☐ Four Finger Tap *

* potentially hard to use

Left Click (Down+Up)
Right Click (Down+Up)
Middle Click (Down+Up)
Left Double Click
Screen Zoom In
Screen Zoom Out
+ Application Zoom In
– Application Zoom Out
Expose All Windows
Expose Application Windows

02 Clicks and taps

The **Clicks & Taps** window lets you configure your gestures to perform tasks such as **Middle Click**, **Hold Both Buttons** (useful for gamers), *Exposé* functions and launching the *Dashboard* or *Terminal*. These tasks are set up using pull-down menus.



Clicks & Taps
Swipes *
Drag, Pinch etc *
Turn real-time graphical display ON

Two Finger Swipes
☐ Two Finger Swipe Left
☑ Two Finger Swipe Right – Switch Spa...
☐ Two Finger Swipe Up
☐ Two Finger Swipe Down

Three Finger Swipes
☐ Three Finger Swipe Left*
☐ Three Finger Swipe Right*
☐ Three Finger Swipe Up
☐ Three Finger Swipe Down

* potentially hard to use

03 Swipes, drags & pinches

The latest release of *MagicPrefs* adds support for swipes with up to four fingers, drag gestures and pinches, both inwards and outwards. They can be potentially hard to use, so only activate what you need. You can always add more later, as you improve with practice. ●

Burn your files to disc

Introducing Burn, the free CD- and DVD-burning software

>> ON THE DISC
You'll find *Burn* on this month's disc.

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY: Beginner

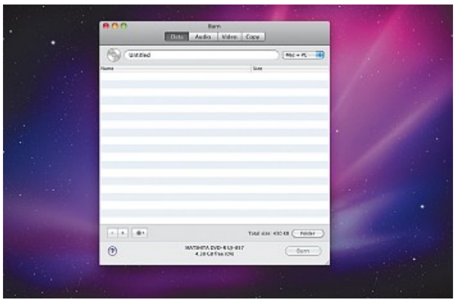
TIME NEEDED: 15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Burn (burn-osx.sourceforge.net), blank CDs or DVDs, files

Pundits have speculated on the demise of optical media (CDs and DVDs). The trend, plainly, is towards greater and greater use of solid-state memory (as in most of the iPod family), and it seems likely that in the future we'll default to such formats for backing up and sharing our files. But the majority of Macs have optical drives as standard – the MacBook Air so far being the only exception. So the likelihood is that we'll all be reading and writing CDs and DVDs for at least a few years to come. There are many software options available to help you do this, as well as good built-in capabilities in OS X. The big hitter is Roxio's *Toast Titanium*, which works alongside other apps, such as *EyeTV*, to integrate digital media across your Mac and make it easy to burn recorded TV programs to DVD or put together a compilation CD. *Burn* is a competent free option (*Toast* is £79.99) and while it doesn't have the bells and whistles of *Toast*, but it still does well. Here we'll talk you through the basics of using it.

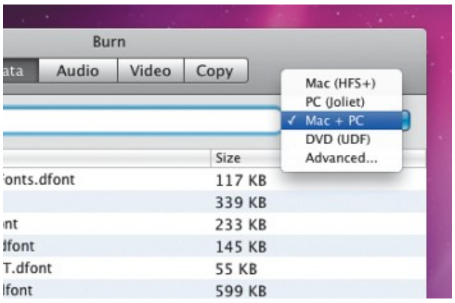
Ian Tromp

>> HOW TO / Copy onto disc using the Burn application



01 Superbly simple

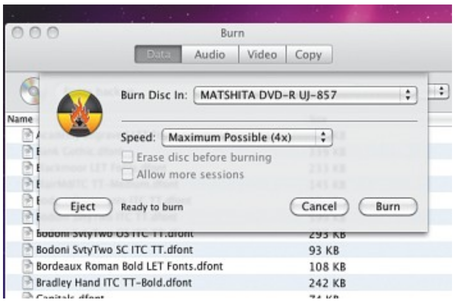
Burn is as simple as can be. They've put a lot of power into a plain package, and from starting up to burning your first CD only takes seconds. Your first step is deciding whether to burn a data, audio, or video disc, or if you're going to copy an existing disc.



onts.dfont 117 KB
339 KB
nt 233 KB
dfont 145 KB
T.dfont 55 KB
lfont 599 KB

02 Backing up/sharing files

To make a data disk, click the **Data** button at the top of the window, and then drag files from *Finder* or another app, such as *iTunes*, into *Burn's* window and you're good to go. Use the pull-down menu to the right of the disc title area to choose the format. Click **Burn**.

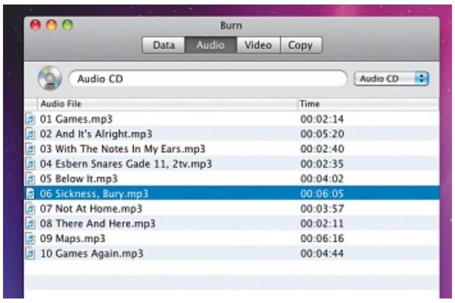


Burn Disc In: MATSHITA DVD-R UJ-857
Speed: Maximum Possible (4x)
☐ Erase disc before burning
☐ Allow more sessions
Ready to burn

Bodoni SvtyTwo SC ITC TT.dfont 93 KB
Bordeaux Roman Bold LET Fonts.dfont 108 KB
Bradley Hand ITC TT-Bold.dfont 242 KB

03 Burn, burn, burn

Choose which drive to use (if you have more than one), the burn speed (which defaults to the maximum your drive is capable of), and whether the disc is finalised after burning, which means no further files can be added afterwards. Click **Burn** to begin writing files.

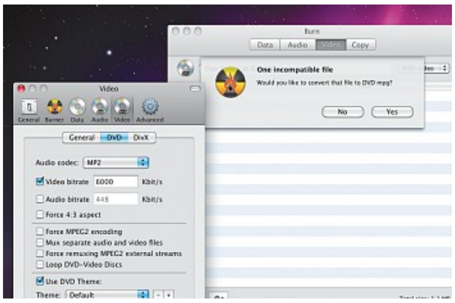


Audio CD

Audio File	Time
01 Games.mp3	00:02:14
02 And It's Alright.mp3	00:05:20
03 With The Notes In My Ears.mp3	00:02:40
04 Esbern Snares Gade 11, 2tv.mp3	00:02:35
05 Below It.mp3	00:04:02
06 Sickness, Bury.mp3	00:06:05
07 Not At Home.mp3	00:03:57
08 There And Here.mp3	00:02:11
09 Maps.mp3	00:06:16
10 Games Again.mp3	00:04:44

04 Mad for music

For an audio CD, choose to make an MP3 CD, an audio CD, or a high-fidelity DVD-audio disc. Check if your songs are in the right order, if not, you can manually reorder them in *Burn*. Remember: always respect copyright and don't produce copies of commercial CDs.

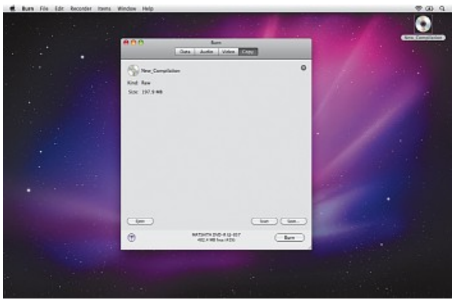


One incompatible file
Would you like to convert that file to DVD mpg?

Audio codec: MP2
☑ Video bitrate 6000 Kbit/s
☐ Audio bitrate 448 Kbit/s
☐ Force 4:3 aspect
☐ Force MPEG2 encoding
☐ Mux separate audio and video files
☐ Force remuxing MPEG2 external streams
☐ Loop DVD-Video Discs
☑ Use DVD Theme:
Theme: Default

05 Home movies

To burn video, select the format you want from the pull-down menu, then drag your video file onto **Burn**, which will ask if you want to convert the file to the chosen format. Click **Yes**, choose where you want the file saved, and, once converted, your disc will be ready to burn.



06 Cloning discs

To copy discs drag the icon for the disc from your desktop onto *Burn's* main window, and then click **Copy**. *Burn* will copy the disc's contents into a temporary folder and eject the original and prompt you to insert a blank disc, onto which it will write a copy of the original.

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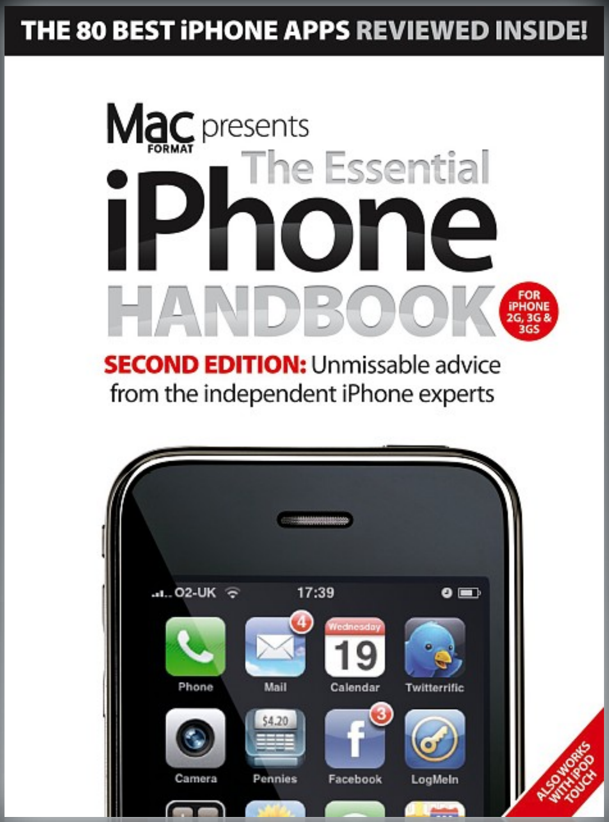

THE 80 BEST iPHONE APPS REVIEWED INSIDE!

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FOR iPHONE 2G, 3G & 3GS

SECOND EDITION: Unmissable advice from the independent iPhone experts

ALSO WORKS WITH iPOD TOUCH

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Find Mac content more easily

Use LaunchBar to access your files, folders, clipboard history and more

>> KEY INFO

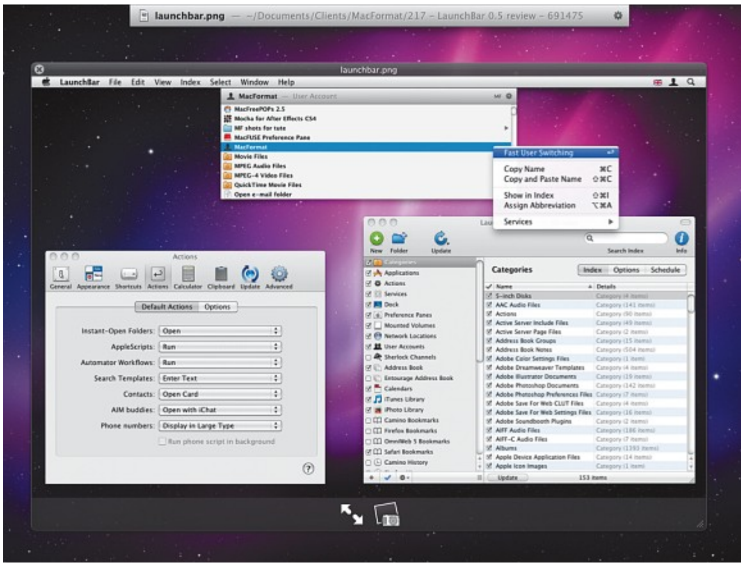
DIFFICULTY
Intermediate

TIME NEEDED
20 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
LaunchBar 5 (www.obdev.at), Mac OS X 10.4+, a Mac with some content to explore

>> ON THE DISC
You can find LaunchBar 5 on your disc.

Although superficially similar to Spotlight, *LaunchBar* predates it by a number of years, and its roots are actually in NeXTSTEP, the precursor to Mac OS X. The impetus behind the app was its developer wanting a single access point for all kinds of information. In 2001, *LaunchBar* for Mac OS X arrived, and recently version 5 was unveiled, offering a number of exciting new features, many of which make Spotlight look rather redundant by comparison.


launchbar.png — ~/Documents/Clients/MacFormat/217 – LaunchBar 0.5 review – 691475
LaunchBar File Edit View Index Select Window Help
Copy Name
Copy and Paste Name
Show in Index
Assign Abbreviation
Services
Actions
Default Actions
Options
Categories
Index
Options
Schedule

LaunchBar supports Quick Look, enabling you to preview results using the space bar.

Getting started

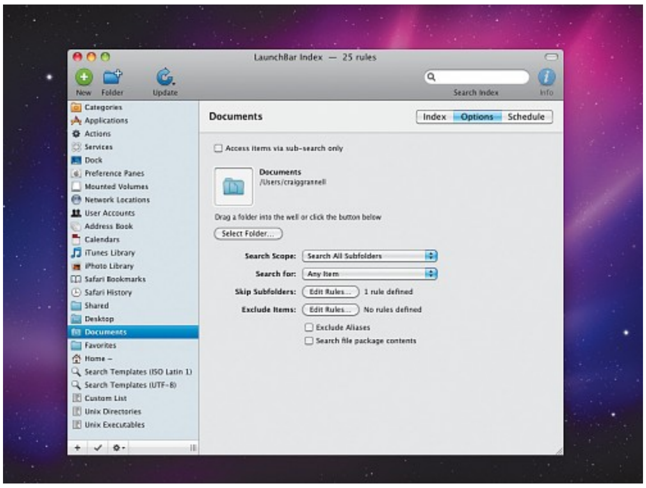
When you first open *LaunchBar*, the app explains there's a clash with Spotlight. This is because *LaunchBar* by default uses ⌘+[Spacebar] for activation, like Spotlight, and ctrl+[Spacebar] for its own Spotlight search. Since *LaunchBar* doesn't search within files, we recommend keeping the standard Spotlight shortcut intact, disabling *LaunchBar*'s Search in Spotlight option (within the Shortcuts section of its preferences) and setting Search in *LaunchBar* to ctrl+[Spacebar]. Once you've set this up, ctrl+[Spacebar] can be used to activate *LaunchBar*, as well as abbreviations used to search for applications, documents and other data on your Mac. However, the abbreviations used needn't have initial characters from an item's name: although ADD should bring *Address Book* to the top of the results list, AB can also be used. If an item doesn't appear at the top of the results list, scroll down the list and select your item with ↩ – *LaunchBar* will, after one or two launches of an item, adapt to your chosen abbreviation. To cancel your abbreviation and type something else, press esc. *LaunchBar* can also automatically remove your abbreviation after a time, which can be defined via the Retype Delay slider in the General preferences.

> *"LaunchBar offers a number of exciting new features, many of which make Spotlight look rather redundant by comparison"*

LaunchBar settings

We're going to explore some workflow scenarios with *LaunchBar*, but prior to experimenting with those, we recommend you check out the app's settings. Via *LaunchBar's* preferences, you can define the number of visible rows during abbreviation searches and browsing (Appearance), determine what happens when certain actions are run (Actions), and decide how you want the calculator to work (Calculator). With the last of those, we recommend unchecking Switch to Calculator when typing a digit.

Another thing to be aware of with *LaunchBar* settings is the app's index. Spotlight indexing is largely an all-or-nothing affair, but *LaunchBar* initially has a smaller index. You can adjust it by going to Index > Show Index to open *LaunchBar's* Index window. Here, you can select data types from the sidebar and use the Index tab to turn items on and off. The Options tab often has settings for determining the scope of the search. Via the Schedule menu, you can also set how often your index is updated. Or, use ⌘+0 to manually update your index, ⌘+2 to update *Address Book* items and ⌘+4 to update Home folder items.


LaunchBar Index — 25 rules
New
Folder
Update
Search Index
Info
Categories
Applications
Actions
Services
Dock
Preference Panes
Mounted Volumes
Network Locations
User Accounts
Address Book
Calendars
iTunes Library
iPhoto Library
Safari Bookmarks
Safari History
Shared
Desktop
Documents
Favorites
Home
Search Templates (ISO Latin 1)
Search Templates (UTF-8)
Custom List
Unix Directories
Unix Executables
Documents
Index
Options
Schedule
Access items via sub-search only
Drag a folder into the well or click the button below
Select Folder...
Search Scope:
Search All Subfolders
Search for:
Any Item
Skip Subfolders:
Edit Rules...
1 rule defined
Exclude Items:
No rules defined
Exclude Aliases
Search file package contents

Documents
/Users/craiggrannell

Fine-tune your LaunchBar index via Index > Show Index, enabling or disabling items and categories as preferred.

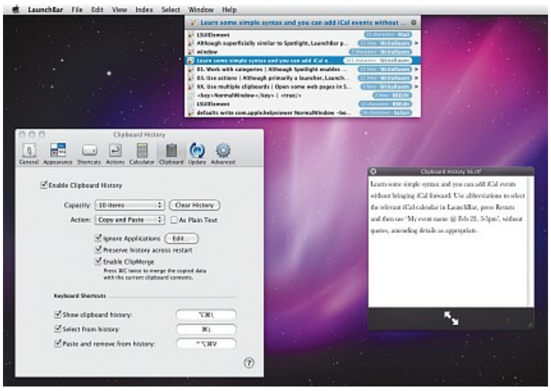
HOW TO / Get started with the best LaunchBar features

01 Work with categories

Although **Spotlight** enables you to search by types of data, this must be done in a *Finder* window, and it takes more than a few clicks to define a search for permanent use (via a smart folder). *LaunchBar* offers dozens of categories, a full list of which can be viewed by going to Index > Search Index and selecting **Categories** from the sidebar. To see categories in action, invoke *LaunchBar* and type **PN**. The first result should be **Phone Numbers**. Press ⏎ and the phone numbers in *Address Book* will be listed. Another abbreviation enables you to filter the list. This technique works for many kinds of data – **PL** should bring up your *iTunes* playlists as a choice, **ALB** provides quick access to *iPhoto* albums, and types of images can be searched via **JP** (for JPEG), **TI** (for TIFF) and **PSD** (for *Photoshop* documents – although this one in our case required 'training' *LaunchBar*, since it appeared some way down the list).

02 Use actions

LaunchBar provides actions other than launching via ⏎ or revealing an item in *Finder* using ⌘+⏎. On selecting (but not activating) an item, hit ⇥. This starts an action, and subsequent abbreviations and selections determine what happens to the item. For example, open a web page in a different browser to your default: type a period (.) to access **Open Location**, type your URL, hit ⇥ and choose your browser via an abbreviation (such as **FF** for *Firefox*). ⏎ opens the URL. You can also load a selection from *Finder* into *LaunchBar* to move or copy it. Do this by dragging the selection to *LaunchBar* or by selecting it in *Finder*, activating *LaunchBar* and using the shortcut ⌘+G. ⇥ then enables you to start defining an action – type a few characters and select a folder (such as **PIC** for **Pictures**). Hit ⏎ and a menu will show options for file manipulation – 1 for **Move**, 2 for **Copy**. Press the relevant key to choose an action. Alternatively, speed up the process by using ⌘+⏎ to move your item to the destination or ⌥+⏎ to copy it there. It's also possible to rename an item within *LaunchBar* by using ⌘+⇧+R to enter the **Rename** dialog. By default, only the filename is selected to avoid accidentally removing the extension, although ⇥ enables you to adjust that as well.


LaunchBar File Edit View Index Select Window Help
Learn some simple syntax and you can add iCal events without ...
LSUIElement
Although superficially similar to Spotlight, LaunchBar p...
window
Learn some simple syntax and you can add iCal e...
01. Work with categories | Although Spotlight enables ...
02. Use actions | Although primarily a launcher, Launch...
XX. Use multiple clipboards | Open some web pages in S...
<key>NormalWindow</key> | <true/>
LSUIElement
defaults write com.apple.helpviewer NormalWindow -bo...
Clipboard History
General Appearance Shortcuts Actions Calculator Clipboard Update Advanced
Clear History
Edit...
Keyboard Shortcuts
Clipboard History 56.rtf

☑ Enable Clipboard History

Capacity: 10 items

Action: Copy and Paste ☐ As Plain Text

☑ Ignore Applications

☑ Preserve history across restart

☑ Enable ClipMerge

Press ⌘C twice to merge the copied data with the current clipboard contents.

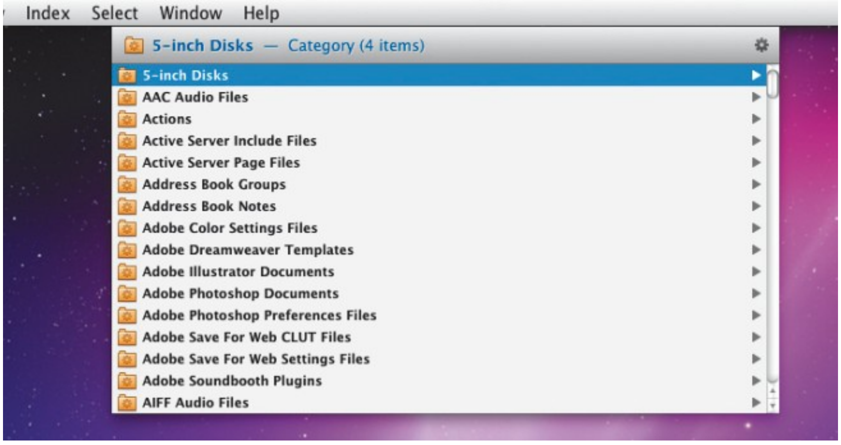
☑ Show clipboard history: ⌥⌘\

☑ Select from history: ⌘\

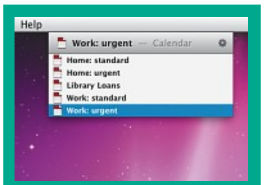
☑ Paste and remove from history: ^⌥⌘V

Learn some simple syntax and you can add iCal events without bringing iCal forward. Use abbreviations to select the relevant iCal calendar in LaunchBar, press Return and then use 'My event name @ Feb 22, 3-5pm', without quotes, amending details as appropriate.

LaunchBar 5 offers a system-wide multiple-item clipboard, whose capacity is up to 40 items.


Index Select Window Help
5-inch Disks — Category (4 items)
5-inch Disks
AAC Audio Files
Actions
Active Server Include Files
Active Server Page Files
Address Book Groups
Address Book Notes
Adobe Color Settings Files
Adobe Dreamweaver Templates
Adobe Illustrator Documents
Adobe Photoshop Documents
Adobe Photoshop Preferences Files
Adobe Save For Web CLUT Files
Adobe Save For Web Settings Files
Adobe Soundbooth Plugins
AIFF Audio Files

LaunchBar makes it easy to search your Mac's data using categories.


Help
Work: urgent — Calendar
Home: standard
Home: urgent
Library Loans
Work: standard
Work: urgent

QUICK TIP

Using simple syntax you can define *iCal* events without bringing *iCal* forward. Just use an abbreviation to select an *iCal* calendar within *LaunchBar*, press ⏎ and use 'My event name @ Feb 22, 3-5pm', without quotes, amending details as appropriate.

03 Explore app data and settings

In many cases, apps within a *LaunchBar* results list can be explored further (to see all running apps, use ⌘+R). If this is the case, you'll see a right-facing arrow next to the item's name. The right cursor arrow enables you to access data and settings. For example, type **SAF** to bring up *Safari* as the first choice, and then press the right arrow. You'll see bookmarks and history options, enabling you to access and filter those things within *LaunchBar*. Typing **IT** should bring up *iTunes*, and navigating within shows as the first option what's currently playing. Beneath are various categories – playlists, artists, albums – which can be navigated using the cursor keys. ⏎ selects a track and loads it in the background. If you rate *iTunes* tracks, you should also check out *LaunchBar*'s automated best-of lists – **BO** brings up the item. These can be filtered by album or artist, and by default include songs rated 4 or higher. This setting can be edited in the **iTunes Library** section of the **Index**, in the **Options** tab.

04 Use multiple clipboards

Open some web pages in *Safari*. Select and copy a few different chunks of text. Also ctrl-click a couple of images and select **Copy Image** from the contextual menu. Press ⌥+⌘+\ and *LaunchBar* will display your clipboard history. Each clipping item has a name and some additional information – typically the app the clipping was copied from, along with a word or line count for text. Browse the list using the cursor keys, hit [Spacebar] to preview an item, and ⏎ to paste it into an active document. To speed things up, use ⌘+\ as a shortcut; hold ⌘ and use the arrows to navigate the list. Release ⌘ to paste an item. You can amend these shortcuts and other options in the **Clipboard** section of *LaunchBar*'s preferences. Capacity can be upped to 40 items, and you can set up an ignore list, which stops *LaunchBar* copying from listed apps. There's also a **ClipMerge** option: by default, press ⌘+C twice and copied data is merged with the current clipboard – tricky to master, but a powerful feature once you have. ●

Combine your social networks

Use Socialite to track Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and more

>> KEY INFO

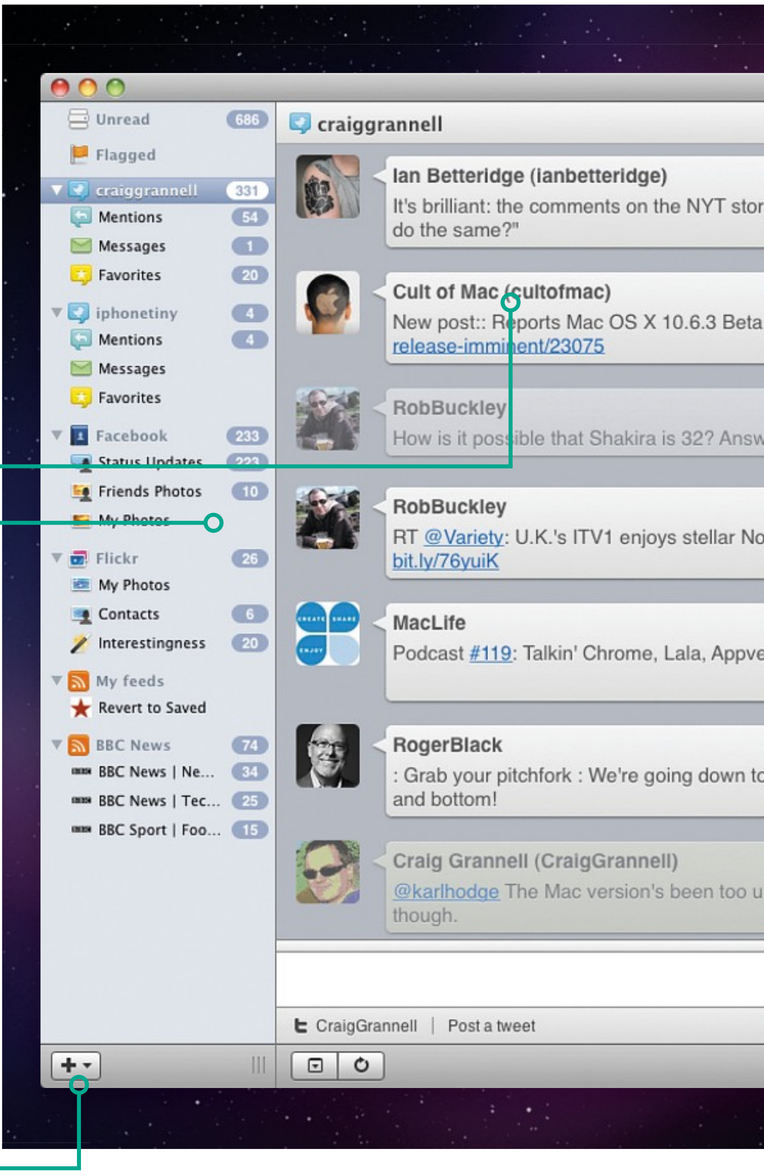
DIFFICULTY: Beginner

TIME NEEDED: 15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED: Socialite (from socialite.emberapp.com), accounts with relevant social networks and/or RSS/Google Reader feeds

Social networking sites are becoming more useful and important, enabling you to track news as it happens and communicate with friends and colleagues. The downside is they need to use several apps and websites to keep up to date. *Socialite* brings content from the most popular networks into one interface, enabling you to check tweets, Facebook updates, RSS feeds and more. If you want to try *Socialite* out, the free demo version runs indefinitely, but is limited to two services. The paid version (£13) has unlimited accounts.

Craig Grannell



craiggrannell

Ian Betteridge (ianbetteridge)
It's brilliant: the comments on the NYT stor
do the same?"

Cult of Mac (cultofmac)
New post:: Reports Mac OS X 10.6.3 Beta
release-imminent/23075

RobBuckley
How is it possible that Shakira is 32? Answ

RobBuckley
RT @Variety: U.K.'s ITV1 enjoys stellar No
bit.ly/76yuiK

MacLife
Podcast #119: Talkin' Chrome, Lala, Appve

RogerBlack
: Grab your pitchfork : We're going down to
and bottom!

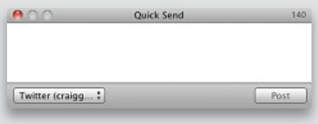
Craig Grannell (CraigGrannell)
@karlhodge The Mac version's been too u
though.

Working with Events

Socialite's Events window houses messages from services. Read messages are dimmed, although the Appearance preferences enable you to mark unread items. (You can also increase the text size within Event balloons.) Above the Events area is a context-sensitive toolbar, offering options relating to the selected service (including Profile Peek for Twitter, which places an account in the sidebar). To the right of each Event is a timestamp and context-sensitive buttons for replying and performing other actions.

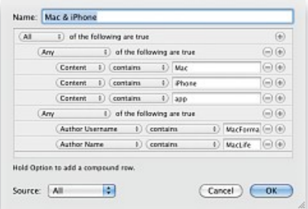
Accessing services

Socialite's sidebar houses all of your services, along with clickable containers for accessing unread and flagged items across all services. Most account types have multiple containers, which can be dragged in order to rearrange them (as can the accounts that house them). If you're keyboard-oriented, focus the sidebar by using ⌘ + S.



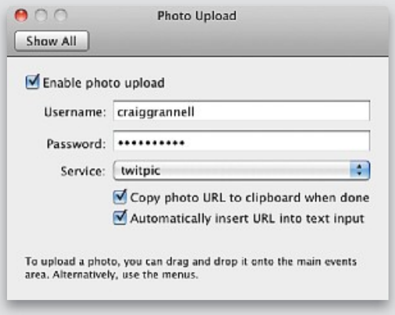
Quick Send

If you need to get a comment online but don't want to be distracted by other people's messages, use the **Quick Send** window. This is accessed via Window > Quick Send (although you can define a system-wide hotkey in the **Hotkeys** section of the **Shortcuts preferences**). After typing, select a service from the menu at the bottom left and click **Post** to send your words of wisdom.


Name: Mac & iPhone
All of the following are true
Any of the following are true
Content contains Mac
Content contains iPhone
Content contains app
Any of the following are true
Author Username contains MacForma
Author Name contains MacLife
Hold Option to add a compound row.
Source: All

Adding accounts

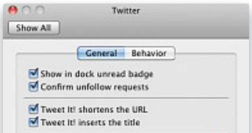
Click the + button at the foot of the sidebar and choose a service to add. For RSS, name your feed group, select it, click the Add Feed button and paste a URL from a browser into the sheet's URL field. For services that require logins, authorise *Socialite* so it can connect. You can also create smart folders, which dynamically filter content for one or more services, based on user-defined criteria.



☑ Enable photo upload
Username: craiggrannell
Password: ••••••••••
Service: twitpic
☑ Copy photo URL to clipboard when done
☑ Automatically insert URL into text input
To upload a photo, you can drag and drop it onto the main events area. Alternatively, use the menus.

Upload photos

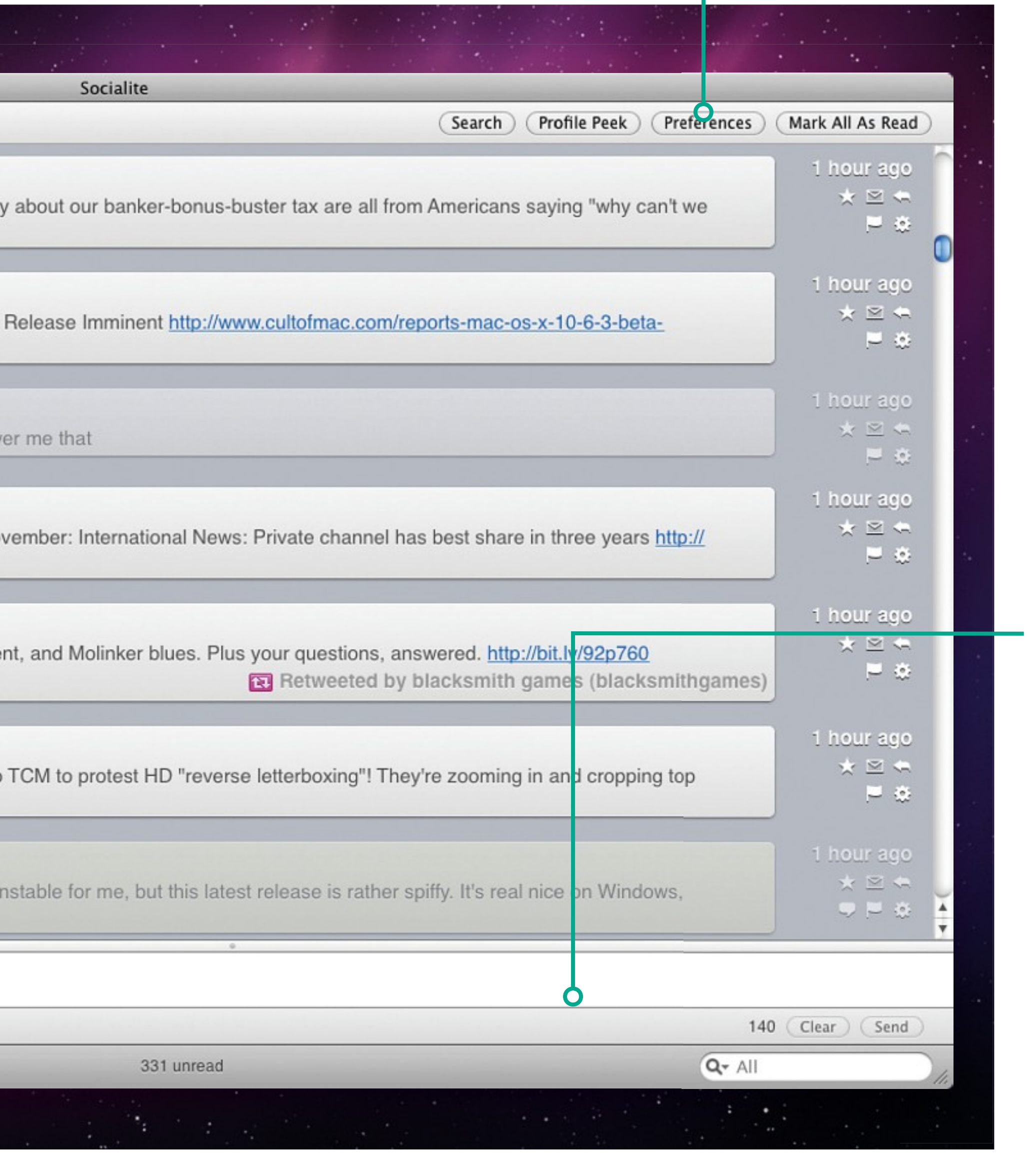
There are two ways to upload images with *Socialite*. For services that enable photo uploads – such as Facebook and Flickr – use the **Upload Photos** button above the events area to access an upload window.



☑ Show in dock unread badge
☑ Confirm unfollow requests
☑ Tweet It! shortens the URL
☑ Tweet It! inserts the title
Refresh this service every: 5 Minutes

Service preferences

Select a service and click the **Preferences** button above the **Events** area. This provides quick access to the service's preferences, enabling you to define refresh rates and whether the unread count of the service is shown in *Socialite's* Dock icon.



y about our banker-bonus-buster tax are all from Americans saying "why can't we

Release Imminent http://www.cultofmac.com/reports-mac-os-x-10-6-3-beta-

er me that

vember: International News: Private channel has best share in three years http://

nt, and Molinker blues. Plus your questions, answered. http://bit.ly/92p760
Retweeted by blacksmith games (blacksmithgames)

TCM to protest HD "reverse letterboxing"! They're zooming in and cropping top

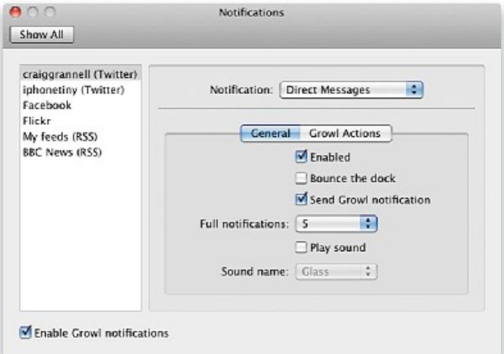
nstable for me, but this latest release is rather spiffy. It's real nice on Windows,

140

331 unread

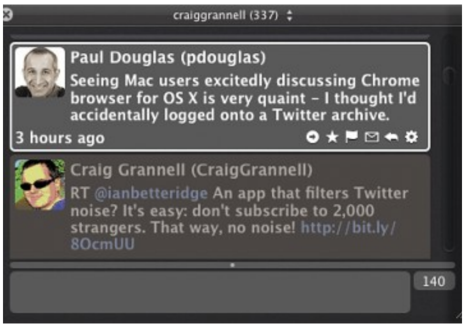
Taming notifications

Some events are more important than others. Using **Notifications preferences**, define alerts for specific responses from certain services – for example, you use a Dock icon bounce to notify regarding a Twitter direct message, or an alert sound to inform when a photo's posted on Facebook. *Growl* integration is also available, and if it gets a bit much, select **Silent Mode** from the app menu.



craiggrannell (Twitter)
iphonetiny (Twitter)
Facebook
Flickr
My feeds (RSS)
BBC News (RSS)

Notification: Direct Messages
☑ Enabled
☐ Bounce the dock
☑ Send Growl notification
Full notifications: 5
☐ Play sound
Sound name: Glass
☑ Enable Growl notifications



Paul Douglas (pdouglas)
Seeing Mac users excitedly discussing Chrome browser for OS X is very quaint – I thought I'd accidentally logged onto a Twitter archive.
3 hours ago

Craig Grannell (CraigGrannell)
RT @ianbetteridge An app that filters Twitter noise? It's easy: don't subscribe to 2,000 strangers. That way, no noise! http://bit.ly/8OcmUU

The HUD

If you have a shiny new 27" iMac with plenty of screen space, the heads-up display (Window > Heads-Up Display) might appeal to you. This displays Events in a floating HUD-style window that also has an input field for responding to messages. **Containers** – which is the selectable elements in the main window's sidebar – can be accessed via the HUD window's title bar or by using ⌥+⌘+▲ and ⌥+⌘+▼.

Replying to Events

Social networks rely on interaction, and *Socialite's* **Input Area** (toggled using ⇧+⌘+I) enables you to comment on Flickr, Facebook and Twitter. For services with character limits (Facebook's is 430, Twitter's is 140), a character count is displayed. *Socialite* offers tools to help get more info into a tight space: Edit > Shorten URL uses is.gd to make web links shorter, and Edit > *Shrink* turns your words into 'txt' speak (if u thnk ths is rlly gd, ur prbly 12).

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

Edit menu shortcuts

⌘ + J	Shorten URL
⌘ + ⇧ + S	Shrink

View menu shortcuts

⌘ + 1	Go To Unread
⌘ + 2	Go To Flagged

Events menu shortcuts

⌘ + →	Open Links
⌥ + ⌘ + /	Previous Unread
⌘ + /	Next Unread
⌥ + ⌘ + K	Mark as Read
⇧ + ⌘ + K	Mark All as Read
⌘ + U	Show Conversation
⌘ + /	Flag
⌥ + ⌘ + F	Favorite
⌘ + R	Refresh Service
⌘ + ⇧ + R	Refresh All Services

>>OS X SURVIVAL GUIDE

Exploring your Mac

Christopher Brennan remembers the little things too

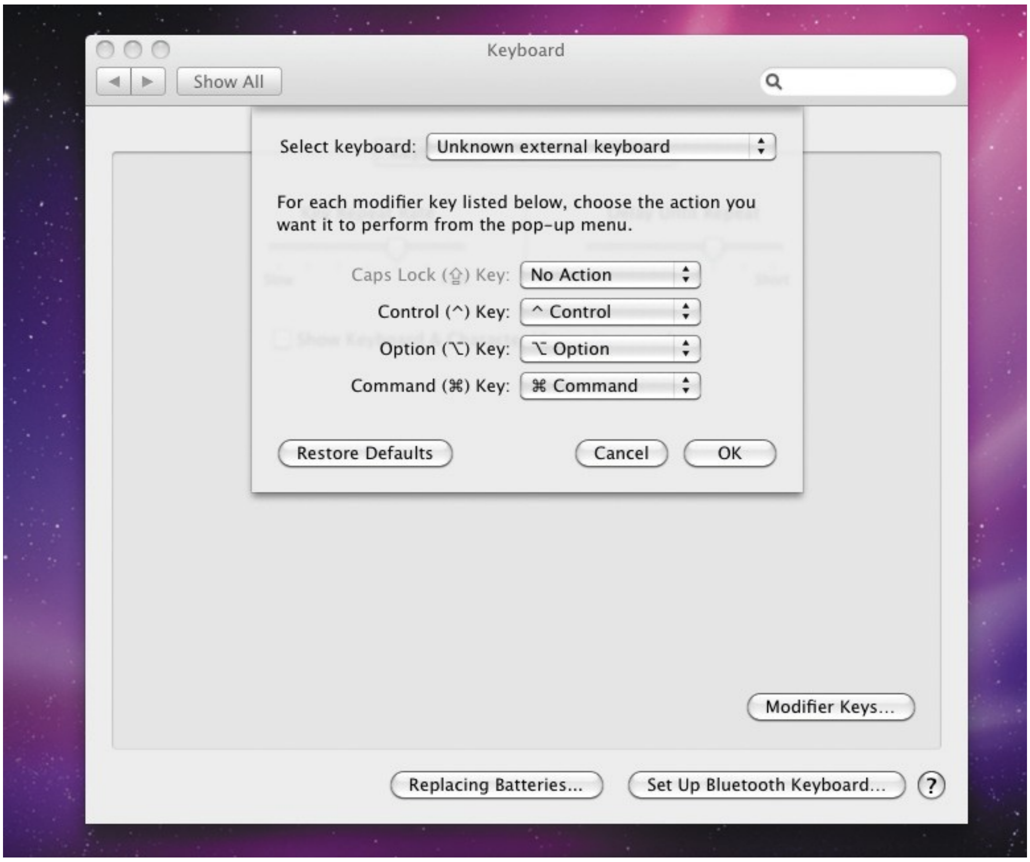
>>PROFILE

Name: Christopher Brennan
Occupation: Freelance journalist, Mac consultant and house-husband
System(s): Mac Pro (2x2.8GHz), MacBook (2GHz), 20-inch iMac (2GHz), 12-inch PowerBook G4 (1GHz)

Sometimes, it's the simple things that slip through the net. Over the years, I've noticed that when people learn how to use a computer, two distinct streams of knowledge are imbued. Firstly, there's the stuff we get shown because it's part of the job – mail merge, sending an email, restarting after a crash and the like. Secondly, there are the other features we stumble across or learn by accident.

Capital punishment

Obviously, some people are fanatical and explore every inch of their computer. Even though they'll never use a particular feature or piece of software, they'll want to see what it can do. They're a bit strange though and probably need help.



Select keyboard: Unknown external keyboard

For each modifier key listed below, choose the action you want it to perform from the pop-up menu.

Caps Lock (⇪) Key: No Action
Control (^) Key: ^ Control
Option (⌥) Key: ⌥ Option
Command (⌘) Key: ⌘ Command

Altering the caps lock key will save you from typing out lines in CAPITAL LETTERS; but it won't help you win the X Factor.

However, this haphazard approach to computer use means that every now and again, someone will ask how to do something that you simply cannot believe they did not know how to do. I had one such experience just the other day.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TYPING AND SUDDENLY REALISED IT'S ALL IN CAPS? It's really annoying and though there are tools to change case easily, it's still an inconvenience. I was helping a friend do some work on a project and the deadline was pretty tight, so tensions were running a little high. I was alerted to some kind of major issue when my friend screamed out, as if in agony.

The problem? Not just that he'd typed a paragraph in all capitals, but that he'd started doing it regularly and now that his muscle memory had stuck, he couldn't stop. Instead of hitting the shift key, his finger inevitably slipped to the caps lock. I have a similar problem with 'the', which I type as 'teh'.

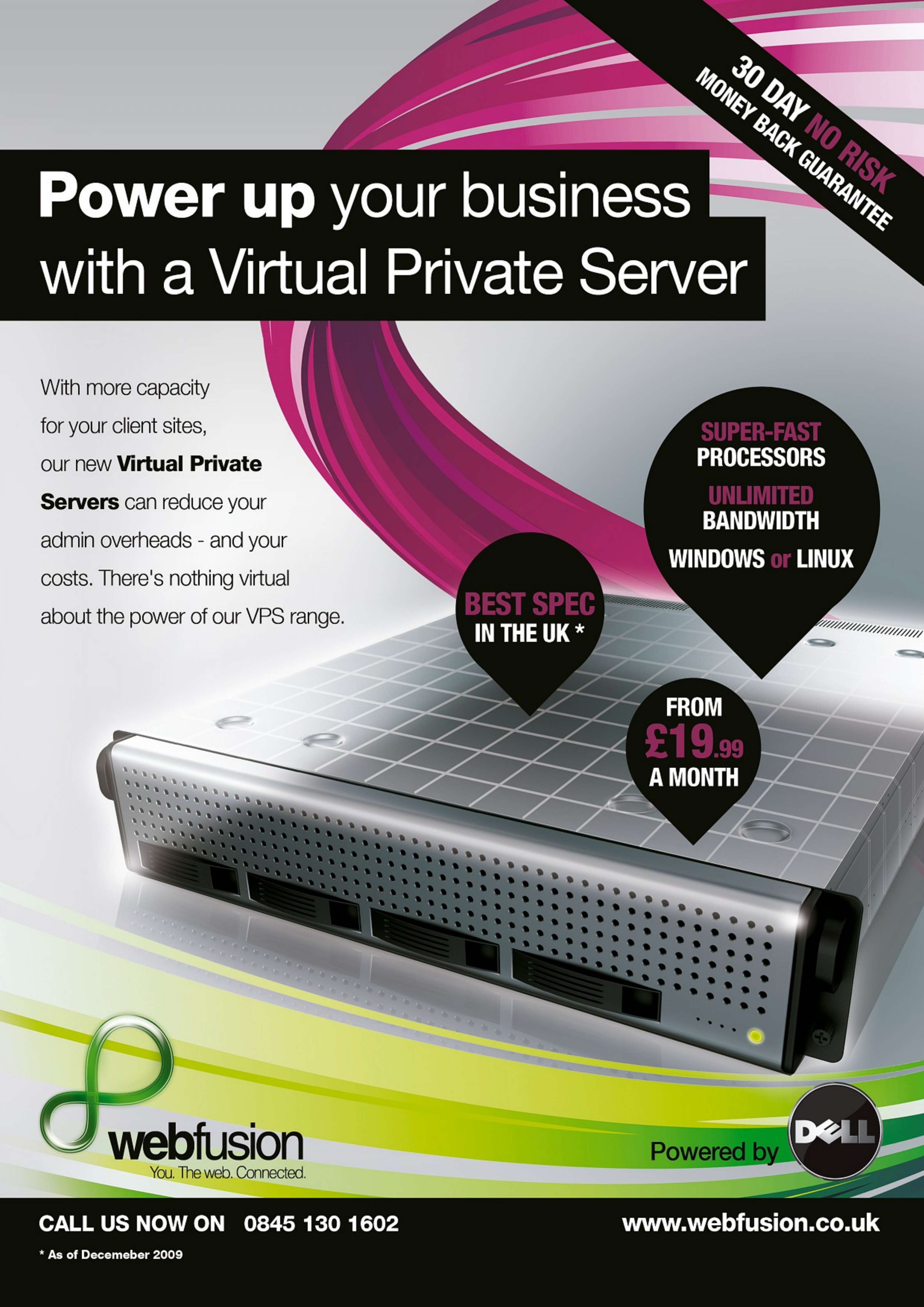
When I told him that he could turn the caps lock key off so that it did nothing, I'm sure he was close to planting a hug kiss on my face. He had that face an *X Factor* winner has when Dermot says they've won: wonder, excitement and the look of dreams coming true.

> *"Some people are fanatical and explore every inch of their computer. They're a bit strange though and probably need help..."*

Know it all

Should you find yourself in a rage about your caps lock, here's the incredibly simple way to turn it off. Go to the Apple Menu > System Preferences > Keyboard Click on Modifier Keys... From the drop-down menu select which action you'd like the caps lock key to perform, set it as No Action and all your caps typing will be banished forever.

I can't guarantee it'll inspire you to win *The X Factor*, but it might stop those annoying minutes wasted retyping. It is worth noting, however, that even the most basic information is useful to someone in need, no matter how trivial you might think it is. Even more then, perhaps it's a good idea to spend some time searching the wilderness of your Mac. There's a lot of stuff going on under the hood, but unless you explore and poke about you'll miss something that might just help you or somebody else out. ●



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The anatomy of a hard disk

What makes a hard disk tick? (And why a ticking hard disk is a bad thing)

>> VITAL STATS

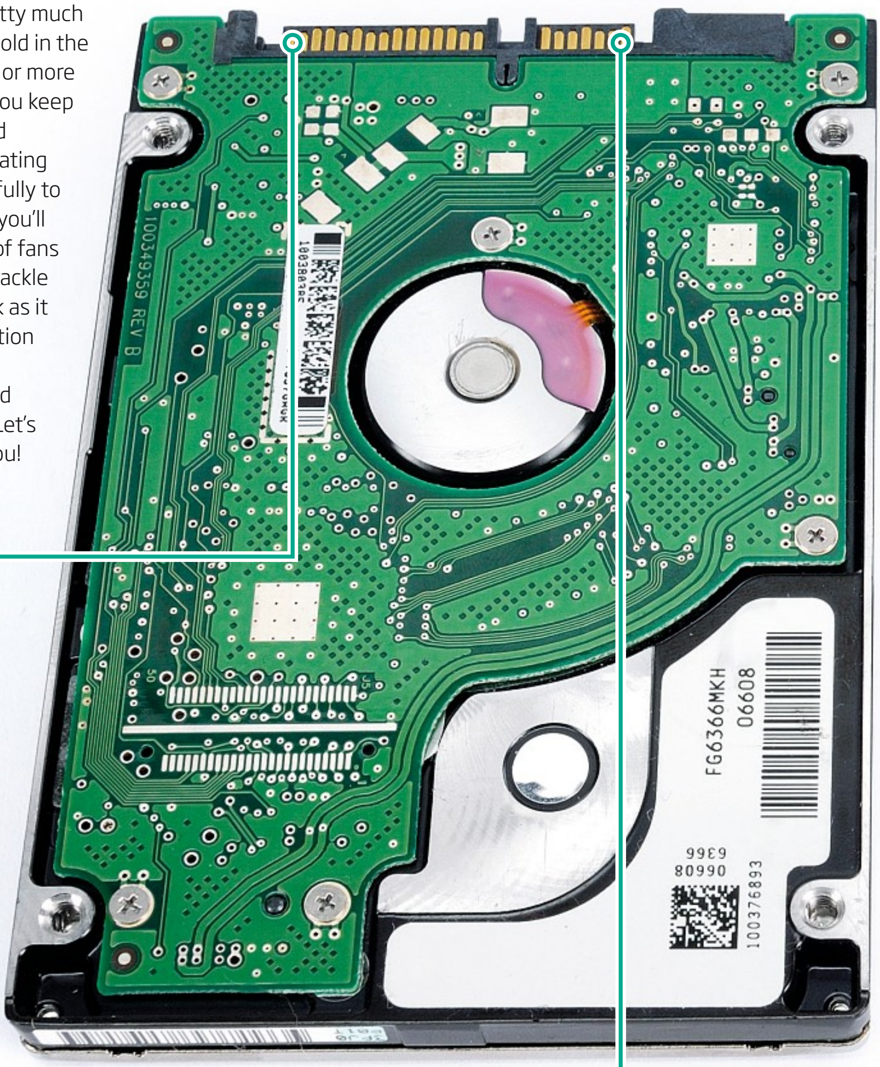
5MB: the capacity of the first Apple hard disk, the ProFile.

10-20nm: the typical thickness of the magnetic coating on a hard disk platter. Paper is typically around 100,000nm thick.

50GB/in^2: the areal density - amount of information stored for a given area; a square inch, in this case - of Western Digital's 2TB Caviar Black hard disk.

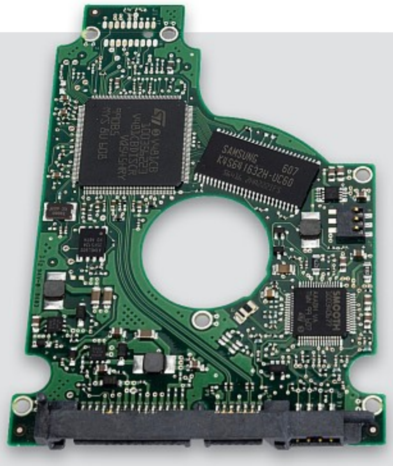
At the heart of pretty much every Mac or PC sold in the last two decades or more is a hard disk. It's where you keep all your photos, music and documents, and the operating system itself. Listen carefully to a Mac as it's running and you'll hear not only the sound of fans keeping it cool, but the crackle and click of your hard disk as it reads and writes information to and from its platters. But what actually is a hard disk? How does it work? Let's open one up and show you!

Christopher Phin



Power connector

You might think that this larger of the two connectors in the SATA interface found on modern hard disks was for the data, but in fact this is the power connector. Very different from the 4-pin Molex connector – used on pre-SATA hard disks, and sometimes retained as an option on 3.5-inch drives – it's so large partly because the SATA spec allows for three different voltages to be supplied, so it needs lots of different pins. The traditional 5V and 12V are supplied in addition to 3.3V, but because dongles that convert from old-style Molex connectors only carry 5V and 12V, few manufacturers have bothered use 3.3V.



Circuit board

On most 3.5-inch drives, the chips and other electrical gubbins that operate the drive and mediate between your computer and the data on the platters are visible on the underside. The smaller 2.5-inch drives, however, sandwich the controller and other chips between the circuit board and the drive itself; while the bottom of the drive appears smooth, remove it and flip it over, as here, and you see the workings. Note the connections going from the main controller chip to the data port.

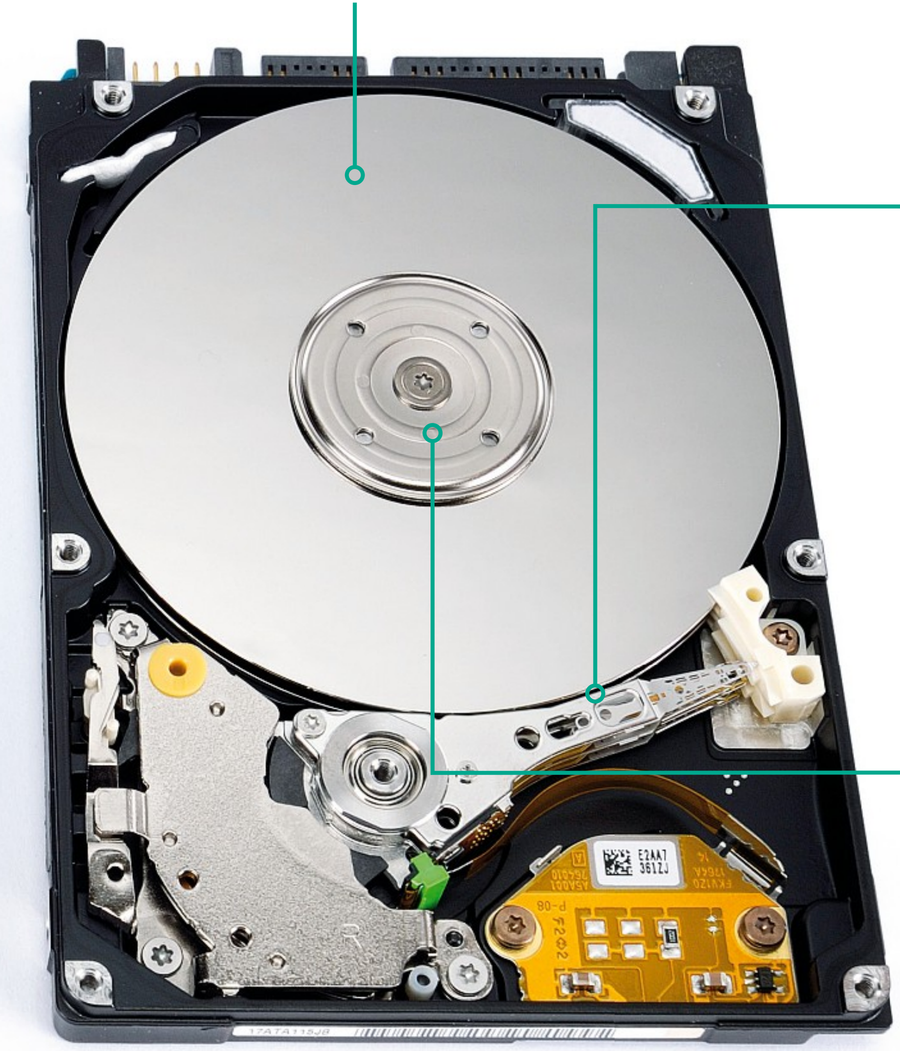
Data connector

This is the one the data flows through. There are seven conductors on a regular SATA plug – four for data, and three grounds – and, unlike with older PATA drives, the data and power connectors are identical on both 2.5-inch mobile drives and the 3.5-inch desktop drives; in theory, you could fit a notebook drive in a desktop quite happily, though in practice it's going to be a bit unstable given that the mounting screws will be in the wrong place. You can, however, buy dummy sleds that let you fit 2.5-inch drives in 3.5-inch slots, which can be especially useful given the rarity of 3.5-inch SSD drives, for example.

Platter

While the data-recording layer on the platters – the place where your files are actually saved, magnetically – is only a few nanometers thick, the rigid (hence, 'hard') disks themselves are much thicker. In desktop drives, they're usually made of metal, whereas for laptop drives – eek! – they're usually glass.

Larger capacity hard disks are often created by stacking multiple platters, and using many-pronged read-write heads, slipping in between the platters to read their data.



Read/write head

A bit like the needle on a record player, a hard disk's read/write head is at this tip of this actuator arm. Data is recorded purely magnetically onto the platters.

Manufacturers are pushing the boundaries of what's physically possible in order to pack as much data as they can onto these finite surfaces, and have had to come up with some very clever tricks, such as stacking data vertically rather than horizontally. When you hear a hard disk crackling away like a Geiger counter, it's the sound of this head flickering about over the surface reading data from and writing it to different sectors.

But when you hear nothing but a steady tick-tick-tick, it's often a bad sign – it means the read-write head is having trouble finding data on the disk. Some drives will also click like this if they're not getting enough power, usually true with an external drive; plug it into a fully-powered USB port.

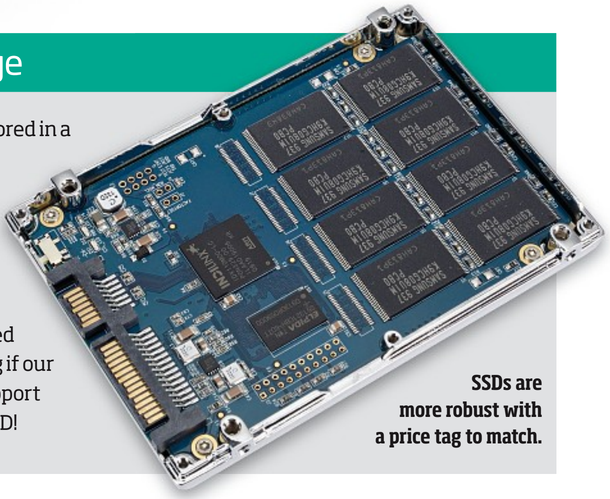
Spindle

It's on this central post that the hard disk platters spin. Sounds simple but even with relatively sluggish modern drives spinning 90 times a second (5,400rpm), the tolerances are very fine. In some cases, the spindle itself houses a tiny magnetic dynamo designed to use the platters' inertia to generate enough power to safely park the read/write heads should the drive lose AC power.

» THE NEXT STEP / Robust, reliable flash-based storage

It all sounds insanely fragile, doesn't it; discs of glass spinning at thousands of revolutions per minute, coated with magnetic recording substrate at best a tenth the thickness of a hair, with read/write heads floating tens of nanometers above the surface trying the dash about and find bits of data from a huge area? It is, frankly, and although manufacturers do a great job in making hard disks reliable, it's the single most common point of failure that we experience with a Mac or PC.

Which is one of the reason that, last month, we tested SSDs for the first time. Though they look similar from the outside, there are no moving parts inside. Data is stored in a special kind of RAM instead, making SSDs much more robust. They have their own problems, but we keep glancing at that picture of the shattered platter and wondering if our credit cards would support splashing out on an SSD!



SSDs are more robust with a price tag to match.

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BLACKNIGHT SOLUTIONS

Manage User Accounts

Sharing your Mac? Control and monitor access from System Preferences

There's only one problem when bringing a shiny new Mac into your home. Everyone is going to want to get their hands on it. Dividing one Mac between all the members of your family is no easy task. Fortunately, User Accounts will help to keep the peace by giving each person their own unique login. This enables individuals to keep their applications and personal documents separate from one another. Password protection ensures personal information remains private. User Accounts also give individuals the chance to personalise the Mac. Any changes they make to the desktop, such as icon layout and display settings, will be preserved for the next time they log in. For parents who want peace of mind when their children are using the Mac there are Parental Controls. They can restrict usage and impose time limits.

Mac OS X
user's iMac
Graham Barlow
Password:
Cancel
Forgot Password
Log In
MacBook Pro

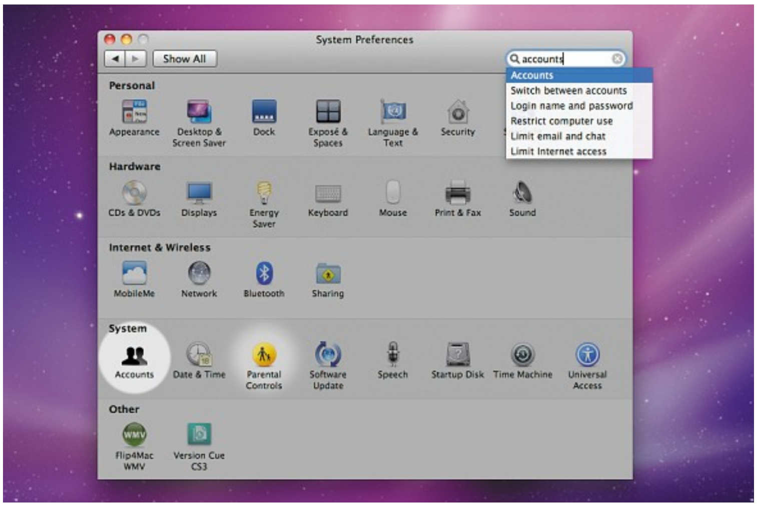
With an Administrator account, Graham is the master of his Mac universe.

Setting up accounts

Get started right away by creating and configuring accounts for each person that uses your Mac. Open *System Preferences* then under System click Accounts. From here you'll be able to manage all your Mac's accounts. Whether you're creating an account from scratch or modifying an existing one, it's a straightforward process. Each person is able to choose their own unique account name. They can also select an image that will be used to identify them on the initial login window that appears when the Mac is switched on.

When a new account is created you'll need to decide which account type to use. There are six available. Of the six, you're most likely to use the following three if you're only going to be sharing one Mac between all members of your family. These are Administrator, Standard and Managed. An Administrator can perform system-wide alterations without restriction. For example, installing software, changing system settings and administering user accounts. A Standard user will be able to install software and change their own account settings. What they won't be able to do is create accounts or change locked system preferences.

A user with a Managed account can do everything that a standard account user can save for the limits that have been imposed using Parental Controls. The remaining three accounts are Guest, Sharing Only and Group. The Guest account may come in useful as it's ideal for the temporary or casual user. It enables them to log in without a password. They'll get the same access as that of a Standard account, but limits can be applied using Parental Controls. Sharing Only applies to people who connect to your Mac over a network and need to access a shared or public folder. »


System Preferences
Show All
accounts
Accounts
Switch between accounts
Login name and password
Restrict computer use
Limit email and chat
Limit Internet access
Personal
Appearance
Desktop & Screen Saver
Dock
Exposé & Spaces
Language & Text
Security
Hardware
CDs & DVDs
Displays
Energy Saver
Keyboard
Mouse
Print & Fax
Sound
Internet & Wireless
MobileMe
Network
Bluetooth
Sharing
System
Accounts
Date & Time
Parental Controls
Software Update
Speech
Startup Disk
Time Machine
Universal Access
Other
Flip4Mac WMV
Version Cue CS3

Use the Spotlight search in System Preferences to quickly find the Accounts preferences.

»QUICK TIP

If a user logs in using the **Guest** account they have the same level of access as a **Standard** user. A temporary **Home** folder will be created for them but any files saved here will be deleted on exit, so save them elsewhere.

QUICK TIP

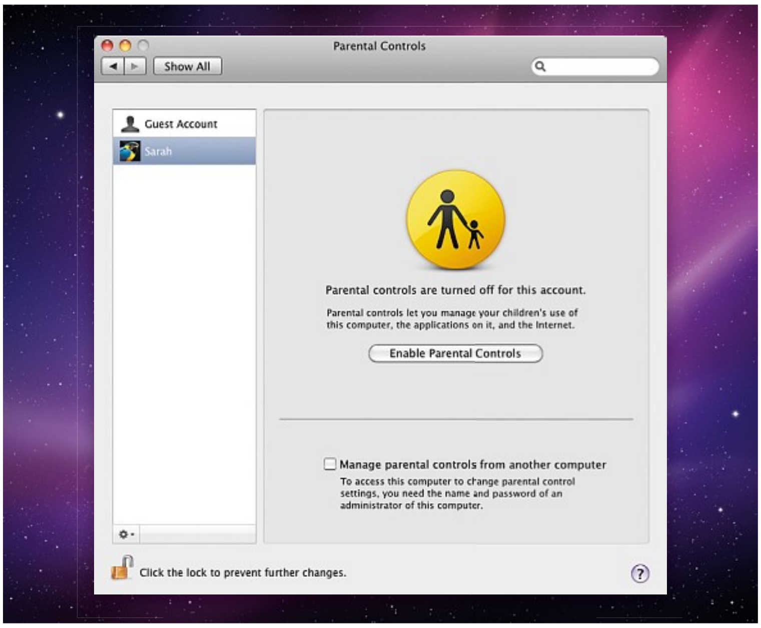
If you have a younger user on your Mac you can simplify the interface to make it easier to understand. Once you've created their account, go into **Parental Controls**. Make sure **System** is selected then check **Use Simple Finder**. This arranges a cut-down desktop and fewer menu items.

Create a Group account to apply specific sharing settings to a group of users. To ensure consistency and to maintain the stability of your machine it's a good idea to have just one Administrator account. For all other users, apply Standard accounts.

File organisation

Once an account has been set up for a user they'll be assigned a Home folder, labelled with their username. This is where personal files can be stored. You'll find your user folder here: Users/yourusername. Other users cannot access your files. A small no entry symbol on a folder confirms that it's locked. Even if you only have a Standard account and the other users are set up as administrators, they still won't be able to open your files or folders.

One exception to this access rule is your Public folder. Anything saved here is freely accessible by the other users of the Mac (similar to the way in which public folders can be accessed by users of a home network). However, if you want to make some of your other files and folders available to other users then you'll need to actively share them.



Parental controls are turned off for this account.

Parental controls let you manage your children's use of this computer, the applications on it, and the Internet.

☐ Manage parental controls from another computer

To access this computer to change parental control settings, you need the name and password of an administrator of this computer.

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Keep children safe by restricting applications and internet content with Parental Controls.

Logging in

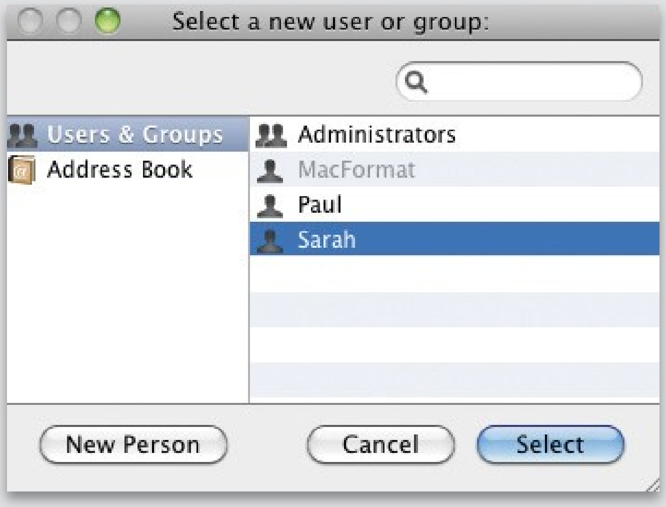
When you start your Mac you'll need to ensure that it displays the login window and doesn't log into an account automatically. Go to Accounts in *System Preferences* and click on Login Options. Click on Automatic Login and make sure you select Off and not a username. The login window will now list all the user accounts showing their login pictures and user names. Now it's simply a case of clicking on a name and entering the correct password. It's possible to customise the login window and alter the way items are displayed. For example, you don't have to list all users on the login window. And you can change it so that users have to enter their name and password every time.

Fast user switching

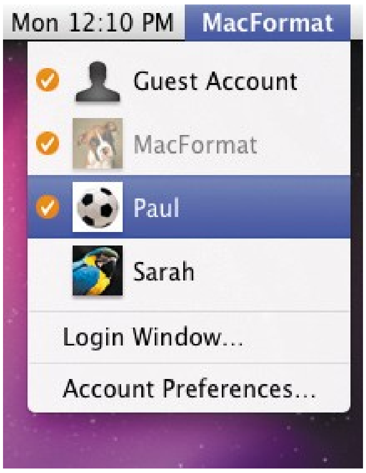
If the person using the Mac is going to chop and change frequently, one feature that will be appreciated by all is fast user switching. This is a convenient way of switching between user accounts without having to close applications or restart. Even if you haven't saved what you're working on, the status of any open documents or applications will be preserved while control of the Mac is passed to the next person. This means none of your users has an excuse for hogging the system for fear of losing their work or their internet connection. For example, a file download will continue for user Steve even if user Phil temporarily switches over to his account. To switch between user accounts, simply click your user name

HOW TO / Set up a Shared folder

Although you've set your Mac up with individual user accounts, there will be times when users want to share files with each other. There's an easy way to do this that won't compromise the security and privacy of an individual's user account. Each user has access to the **Shared** folder. This is a convenient place for users to leave their files for others to retrieve. However, you may not want all users to be able to access the files you put here. By changing the permissions for a file, you can determine exactly what level of access a particular user can have to that file. Copy a file you want to share to the **Shared** folder. Hold down ctrl and click the file, then select **Get Info** from the menu. Go down to **Sharing & Permissions** to see a list of users or groups that currently have access to the file. Click on the **+** button to add users if they're not displayed. Use the setting in the **Privilege** column to set a level of access for a user. If privacy is a real concern between users of your Mac, bear in mind the following: even if a user doesn't have access to a file they'll still be able to see its presence if it's placed in the root of the **Shared** folder. All they'd have to do is use the **Icon** view and increase the icon size, and for some file types this gives a large preview of the file. Therefore, for extra privacy, place files in their own folder and then copy this folder to the **Shared** folder.



Modify permissions and prevent all users from accessing a file or folder.



Use Fast user switching to move between user accounts without logging out.

HOW TO / Set up a Root account

There's another hidden user account available in your Mac OS X. It's called **Root**. It's not to be used lightly as it gives you unrestricted privileges across the system. This means it can even be used to access the files of other users. The fact that this account is so powerful means it should be password-protected and used by only one user. The **Root** account is already created on your system. All you have to do is enable it. In Snow Leopard, open a new *Finder* window, browse to **System\Library\CoreServices** then double-click **Directory Utility**. Click on **Edit** and choose **Enable Root User**. Then select the password you want to use. This new account will be available the next time you log in. At the login window you'll see the list of users plus a new one listed as **Other...** select this to log in as **Root**. A blank username and password will appear. Enter **root** as the username followed by the password you've chosen. You'll now be signed in and you'll see you're account has been given the name **System Administrator**. As you browse through your hard disk, you'll see for yourself that there are no restrictions on your movement. Folders that were out of bounds, even in a normal **Administrator** account, can now be opened. The **Root** user account is powerful. Only use it when there are files and folders you're unable to access. When you're done, disable it.

on the menu bar then select another user account. This brings up a new login window for the other user. It won't give you complete privacy, since your desktop and any open applications will still be on view. To completely obscure these it's a good idea to click on **Login Window** instead. Something worth noting is that if you type a password incorrectly you won't be advised that what you've entered is incorrect. Instead, the login window will shake from side to side.

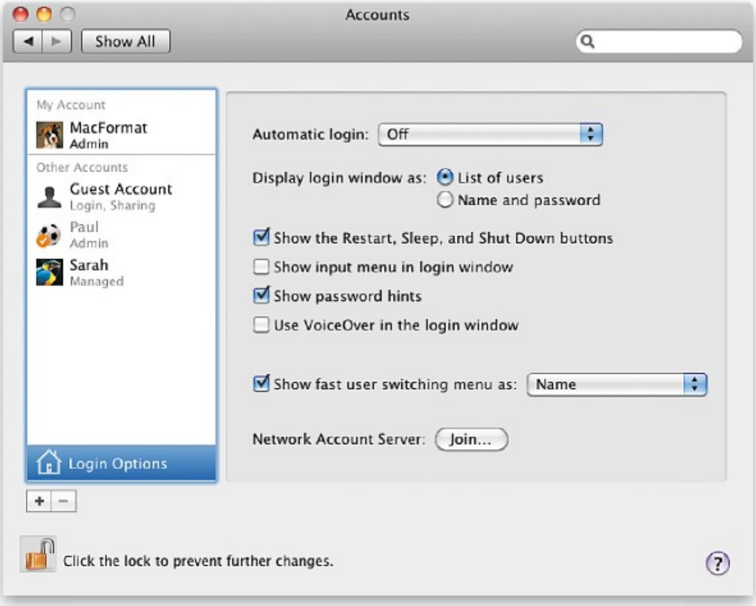
Fast user switching isn't without its drawbacks. One instance when this will be apparent is if you don't have much RAM installed. Your Mac will share available memory between all open user accounts. With several user accounts running at once, continually switching between them may cause your Mac to become sluggish. Also, if you want to shut down or restart your Mac and multiple accounts are open, you'll have to enter an administrator password in order to carry out the task. Not all applications are going to run successfully when being used under more than one user account at a time. You may find yourself in a situation where you need to close an application that another has left running. Fortunately, you'll be able to quit this application without having to log into their account. If you have an **Administrator** account, go to **Applications** then **Utilities** and select *Activity Monitor*. This displays all the processes and applications that are running. Select the item and click on **Quit Process**. Remember, if they haven't saved what they were working on, it will be lost.

> *"If younger members of the family are going to be using the Mac, it's a good idea to set up Parental Controls"*

Using Parental Controls

If younger members of the family are going to be using the Mac, it's a good idea to set up **Parental Controls** for their accounts. These settings enable to you determine how they're able to use the Mac. They also give you the opportunity to monitor their actual usage. Ensuring they're not able to use the machine all hours of the day and night is also vital. Using **Time Limits**, you'll be able to ration their computer time throughout the week. The settings are split into three categories. Using **Weekday** time limits, you can set an amount of daily usage from Monday through to Friday. For Saturday and Sunday, use **Weekend** time limits to fix a daily limit. Although you've now set a daily limit, you haven't configured at what time they can use the computer. To ensure they get a good night's sleep, use the settings under **Bedtime**. Here you'll be able to prevent access during the hours you specify.

If you have any concerns about how your child may be using the Mac, the logs will put you in the picture. They'll provide you with a breakdown of activity with regards to websites



MacFormat Admin
Guest Account Login, Sharing
Paul Admin
Sarah Managed

Automatic login: Off

Display login window as: ● List of users ○ Name and password

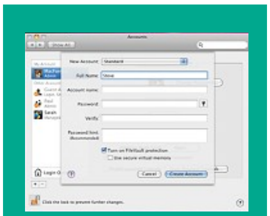
☑ Show the Restart, Sleep, and Shut Down buttons
☐ Show input menu in login window
☑ Show password hints
☐ Use VoiceOver in the login window

☑ Show fast user switching menu as: Name

Network Account Server: Join...

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

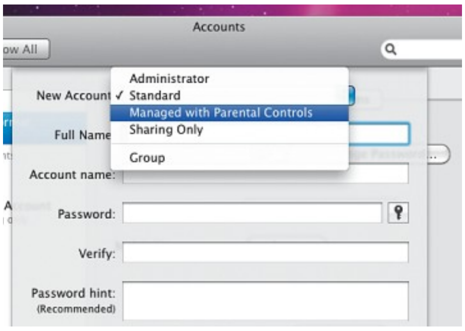
Customise the look of the login screen via the Accounts panel in System Preferences.



QUICK TIP

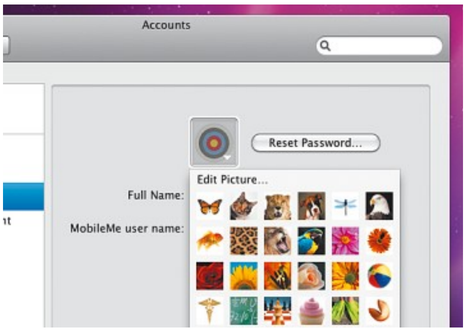
When creating a new user account, one of the options is **Turn on FileVault Protection**. Select this option and the contents of the user's **Home** folder will be encrypted. You'll also need to create a **Master Password** in case you forget your user password.

HOW TO / Create and manage your child's user account


Accounts
ow All
New Account
✓ Standard
Administrator
Managed with Parental Controls
Sharing Only
Group
Full Name
Account name:
Password:
Verify:
Password hint: (Recommended)

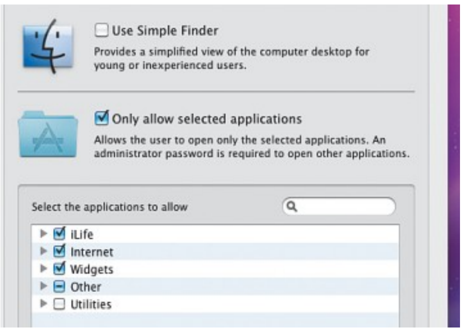
01 New account

Open *System Preferences* and click **Accounts**. Click the + button underneath **Login Options**. In the **New** drop-down box select an account type. We'll choose **Managed with Parental Controls**. Enter a name and password for your account then click on **Create Account**.


Accounts
Reset Password...
Edit Picture...
Full Name:
MobileMe user name:

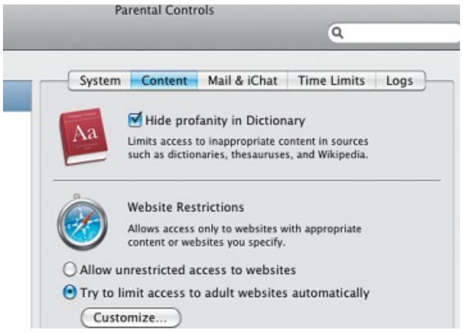
02 Account image

Once your account has been created it will be allocated an image. This appears against the user's name on the login window. Click on the image to change it and choose an alternative from the selection. To pick one of your own, click **Edit** and select it from your hard disk.


☐ Use Simple Finder
Provides a simplified view of the computer desktop for young or inexperienced users.
☑ Only allow selected applications
Allows the user to open only the selected applications. An administrator password is required to open other applications.
Select the applications to allow
☑ iLife
☑ Internet
☑ Widgets
Other
☐ Utilities

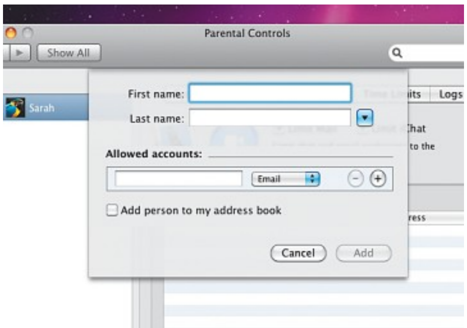
03 Use Parental Controls

Select a user account to manage, then click **Open Parental Controls**. Choose the **System** tab and check **Only allow selected applications**. Browse the categories below and select those apps you'd like them to use. You can also block or allow access to CD/DVD burning.


Parental Controls
System
Content
Mail & iChat
Time Limits
Logs
☑ Hide profanity in Dictionary
Limits access to inappropriate content in sources such as dictionaries, thesauruses, and Wikipedia.
Website Restrictions
Allows access only to websites with appropriate content or websites you specify.
○ Allow unrestricted access to websites
● Try to limit access to adult websites automatically
Customize...

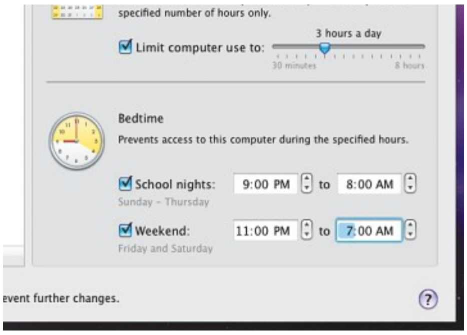
04 Restrict web content

The **Hide profanity in Dictionary** option is checked by default. Select **Try to limit access to adult websites automatically**. Click **Customize** to control this further. From here you can deny or allow access to specific websites.


Parental Controls
Show All
Sarah
First name:
Last name:
Allowed accounts:
Email
☐ Add person to my address book
Cancel
Add

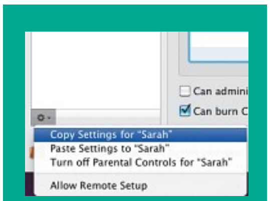
05 Define contacts

To oversee who your child has contact with online, select **Limit Mail** and **Limit iChat**. Enter the email address of people they can have contact with. To authorise contacts, enter your email address in **Send permissions requests to**.


specified number of hours only.
☑ Limit computer use to:
3 hours a day
30 minutes
8 hours
Bedtime
Prevents access to this computer during the specified hours.
☑ School nights: 9:00 PM to 8:00 AM
Sunday – Thursday
☑ Weekend: 11:00 PM to 7:00 AM
Friday and Saturday
event further changes.

06 Limits and Logs

Switch to **Time Limits**. Use the **Weekday** and **Weekend** time limits to allow access in 30-minute increments. Use **Bedtime** to set a schedule of denied access. Under **Logs**, various ways to display results are available to you.


☐ Can admini
☑ Can burn C
Copy Settings for "Sarah"
Paste Settings to "Sarah"
Turn off Parental Controls for "Sarah"
Allow Remote Setup

QUICK TIP

You can copy and paste permissions between accounts. In **Parental Controls**, select the account, then from the settings menu select **Copy Settings**.

visited and applications used. You can also monitor how *iChat* is being used.

There are likely to be applications installed on your Mac you don't want them to able to use either. Open **Parental Controls** in *System Preferences* and select the account you want to work with, then click on **Open Parental Controls**. Make sure the box **Only allow selected applications** is checked, then go through and select only those you'd like to be available. You can also control their ability to carry out certain other tasks including burning discs and administering printers.

There have been a number of enhancements to **Parental Controls** in Snow Leopard. These include improvements to the web content filter and the time limiter. Also, if a usage limit has been applied to an account there's now a timer that appears on the menu bar, which shows the amount of time that remains in a quota. Perhaps the most significant change in Snow Leopard is the option to manage parental controls remotely. If you have several Macs on a home network you can now manage users from a single Mac instead of administering the settings at each machine.

To start using this feature you'll need to have an **Administrator** account on each Mac that you want to manage. Next, on each Mac go to **Parental Controls** in *System Preferences* then click on the **Action Menu** and choose **Allow Remote Setup**. In the **Accounts** list you'll see **Other Computers**. Select this and you'll be able to choose from a list of user accounts that you can administer to your heart's content.

Paul Townsend

> *"If a usage limit has been applied to an account there's now a timer that appears on the menu bar"*

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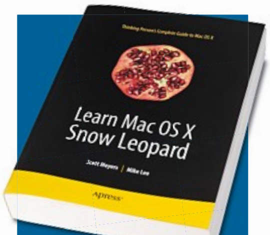
Get connected!

Your complete guide to Snow Leopard's networking options



UP FOR GRABS!

This feature is an extract from *Learn Mac OS X Snow Leopard* by Scott Meyers and Mike Lee, published by Apress. Subscribe now to *MacFormat* and receive the book as a free gift (see page 28) or get a special 40% *MacFormat* reader discount on a copy from **www.compman.co.uk/av/macformat** Hurry! Offer ends April 30, 2010.

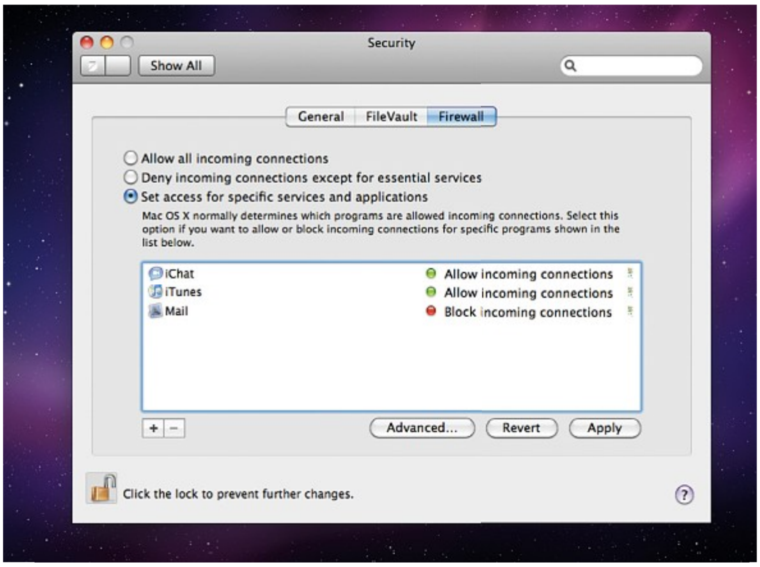
The Mac is known for making it easy and safe to get online. Under the hood, Mac OS X has all the networking power of UNIX. The internet and UNIX go way back, growing up together. You might even say they were made for each other. Like any UNIX system, Mac OS X comes with a full set of networking tools built in. These are:

- firewall software for keeping your computer safe on the internet in an effective, easy-to-use way
- monitoring tools for keeping an eye on what your computer is doing, online and off
- network utilities for inspecting your packets from the UI or command line
- AirPort utilities for setting up and managing wireless networks and shared resources

Setting up Firewall

The Mac has a well-deserved reputation for being safe on the internet, but that doesn't mean you should be careless. The simplest thing to do is set up the built-in firewall.

The firewall in Mac OS X arbitrates incoming connection requests based on the requested port, the source, and the intended recipient. It's not unlike a lobby security guard in that it doesn't limit the ability of packets to leave; it cares only about things trying to come in from the outside.



○ Allow all incoming connections
○ Deny incoming connections except for essential services
● Set access for specific services and applications

Mac OS X normally determines which programs are allowed incoming connections. Select this option if you want to allow or block incoming connections for specific programs shown in the list below.

iChat	● Allow incoming connections
iTunes	● Allow incoming connections
Mail	● Block incoming connections

Change your firewall settings by selecting System Preferences from the menu.

To change your firewall settings, launch *System Preferences* by selecting System Preferences… from the menu. Then click the Security preference pane, and select the Firewall tab, as shown in the screengrab above.

> *"The Mac has a good reputation for being safe, but that doesn't mean you should be careless..."*

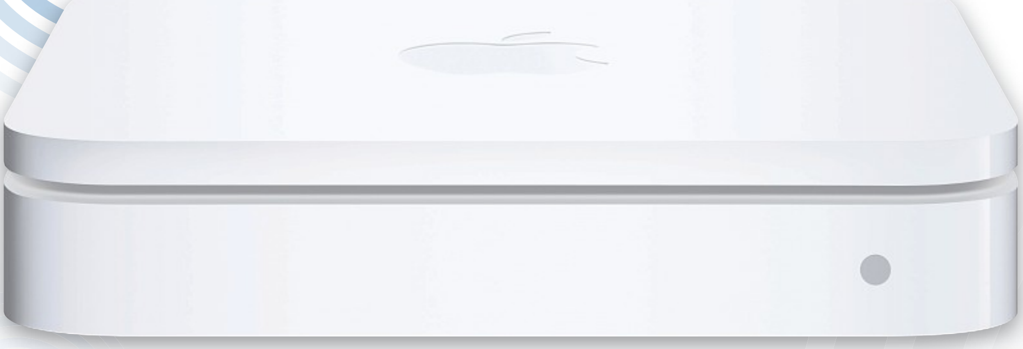
In order to be effective, security has to be simple. The firewall in Mac OS X is about as simple as a firewall can be, but it's backed by Snow Leopard's solid UNIX underpinnings.

Socket filtering

On the BSD level, Mac OS X uses socketfilterfw. This is both simpler and more effective than older port-based filters. Aside from eliminating the hassle of manually configuring ports, the socket filtering method is more accurate, because it filters packets based on where they are going to, rather than which port they are coming into.

Networking gurus might argue that this approach is less flexible, and therefore less effective, than ipfw's rulesets. With rulesets, it's easy to block a specific protocol from a specific IP address.

As is typical of Mac OS X, the majority simple case prevails. The minority edge case is left to its own devices. If you're smart enough to care, you're smart enough to install your own firewall.



Your Mac's firewall is easy to set up and can be adjusted to work with your settings.

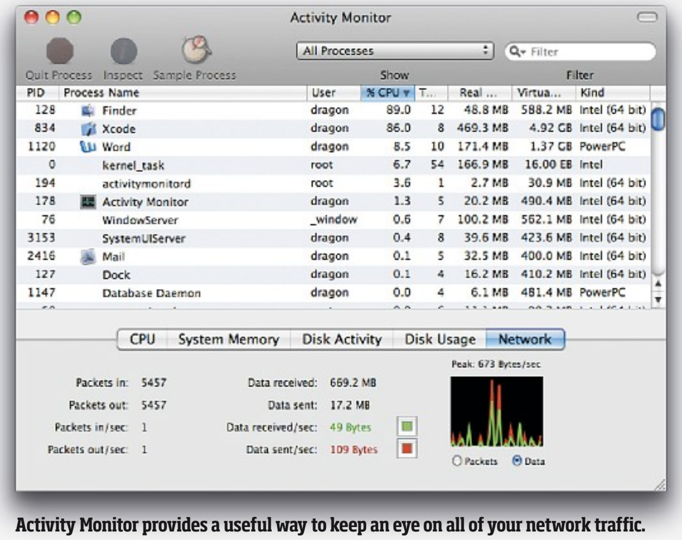
MONITORING NETWORK TRAFFIC / Know what's going on with your Mac

Raising the firewall is a good first step, but nothing beats basic situational awareness. If your computer was infected with malware and participating in zombienet denial-of-service attacks or sending out spam, would you actually know about it?

We like to know what our computers are doing, which is why we love *Activity Monitor*, located in **/Applications/Utilities**. *Activity Monitor* lets you know what's running and how much memory and CPU it's taking up. It also lets you monitor when things are writing to disk or sending and receiving traffic over the network, as shown in the screengrab.

Activity Monitor has a convenient animated Dock icon, so even when the monitoring window is not open, we can keep an eye on packets travelling over the network. If you see a lot of activity and you're not actively using the network, you'll want to know why.

Within *Activity Monitor*, you can select **View>Dock Icon >Show Network Usage** to enable this feature.



PID	Process Name	User	% CPU	T...	Real ...	Virtua...	Kind
128	Finder	dragon	89.0	12	48.8 MB	588.2 MB	Intel (64 bit)
834	Xcode	dragon	86.0	8	469.3 MB	4.92 GB	Intel (64 bit)
1120	Word	dragon	8.5	10	171.4 MB	1.37 GB	PowerPC
0	kernel_task	root	6.7	54	166.9 MB	16.00 EB	Intel
194	activitymonitord	root	3.6	1	2.7 MB	30.9 MB	Intel (64 bit)
178	Activity Monitor	dragon	1.3	5	20.2 MB	490.4 MB	Intel (64 bit)
76	WindowServer	_window	0.6	7	100.2 MB	562.1 MB	Intel (64 bit)
3153	SystemUIServer	dragon	0.4	8	39.6 MB	423.6 MB	Intel (64 bit)
2416	Mail	dragon	0.1	5	32.5 MB	400.0 MB	Intel (64 bit)
127	Dock	dragon	0.1	4	16.2 MB	410.2 MB	Intel (64 bit)
1147	Database Daemon	dragon	0.0	4	6.1 MB	481.4 MB	PowerPC

Packets in: 5457
Packets out: 5457
Packets in/sec: 1
Packets out/sec: 1
Data received: 669.2 MB
Data sent: 17.2 MB
Data received/sec: 49 Bytes 🟩
Data sent/sec: 109 Bytes 🟥

Activity Monitor provides a useful way to keep an eye on all of your network traffic.

A lot of root and system programs have arcane invocations that can make it hard to tell what a given program in *Activity Monitor* actually is. You can Google the application name, or you can look it up on convenient lists such as Amit Singh's *Mac OS X Hacking Tools*: **www.kernelthread.com/mac/osx/tools.html**.

If you want to take network monitoring to the next level, you need to check out *Little Snitch* by Objective Development. *Little Snitch* complements your firewall by letting you know when applications try to send data from your machine.

Why might an application send out packets? If it's *iChat* or *Mail* or *Safari*, it probably has a legitimate reason. On the other hand, there are a lot of other reasons you might not be in total agreement with, such as phoning home with personal information the developer thinks it's OK to take without asking.

You can also use *Little Snitch* to selectively allow or block individual servers. For example, you might allow *Safari* to connect to a web page you are trying to view but not allow it to connect to a site hot-linked from that page, such as an advertising or tracking network.

Like the firewall, *Little Snitch* has a list of rules you can build on the fly via notifications. Unlike the firewall, *Little Snitch* has a lot of configuration options, being designed for more advanced users. Even so, it's still a Mac application; you can install and run it without bothering with any of that stuff.

Unlike the built-in firewall and *Activity Monitor* utility, *Little Snitch* costs $25. Like all good software, it comes with a free demo mode. Download it from the developer's site (**www.obdev.at**) and give it a try. We think you'll agree it's well worth the price.

There are a few times when it might be necessary to leave your firewall down. If you're behind a dedicated firewall, it might be redundant. If you're having trouble connecting to another machine, you might need to temporarily disable the firewall. Finally, your network administrator, who has the last word on network configuration, might ask you to keep it open.

Firing up the firewall

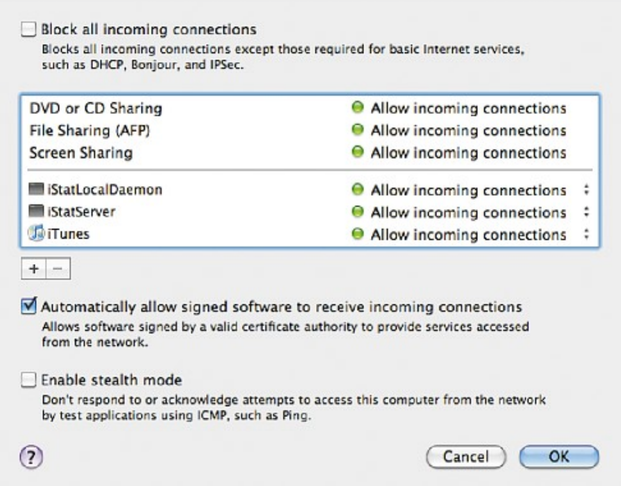
Snow Leopard's firewall requires no configuration. If you enable a network service on the Sharing panel in *System Preferences*, that service will be added to the firewall's list of allowed applications. Apps that have been code signed to prevent tampering are also allowed to access the network. And applications that have not been code signed will ask permission the first time they try to access the network.

The nice thing about building the list on the fly like this is that you don't have to spend a bunch of time building a list of abstract applications whose usage you may not have put that much thought into yet. You can still view and edit the list by clicking the Advanced... button on the Security panel. This will pop up a sheet, as shown in the screengrab to the right, from which you can add and remove applications, as well as switch between allowing and denying connections.

> *"Stealth mode means your computer ignores pings, giving it the appearance of being off the network"*

In addition to the firewall's application list, several check boxes are available. You can choose to simply deny all connections, to disable trusting signed applications, and to enable "stealth mode."

Stealth mode means your computer ignores pings, giving it the appearance of being off or disconnected from the network. Logic dictates this should make you some percentage safer. Some people say that stealth mode won't make you any safer, and certainly it makes your computer uncooperative with the protocols of the internet.



☐ Block all incoming connections
Blocks all incoming connections except those required for basic Internet services, such as DHCP, Bonjour, and IPSec.

DVD or CD Sharing	● Allow incoming connections
File Sharing (AFP)	● Allow incoming connections
Screen Sharing	● Allow incoming connections
iStatLocalDaemon	● Allow incoming connections
iStatServer	● Allow incoming connections
iTunes	● Allow incoming connections

☑ Automatically allow signed software to receive incoming connections
Allows software signed by a valid certificate authority to provide services accessed from the network.

☐ Enable stealth mode
Don't respond to or acknowledge attempts to access this computer from the network by test applications using ICMP, such as Ping.

Advanced firewall settings sheet in System Preferences.

That is to say, we run stealth mode. People don't need to ping our computers, regardless of the way the internet is supposed to work. If you find yourself running network diagnostics or have your machine set up as a server, you'll probably want to disable stealth mode.

Network Utilities

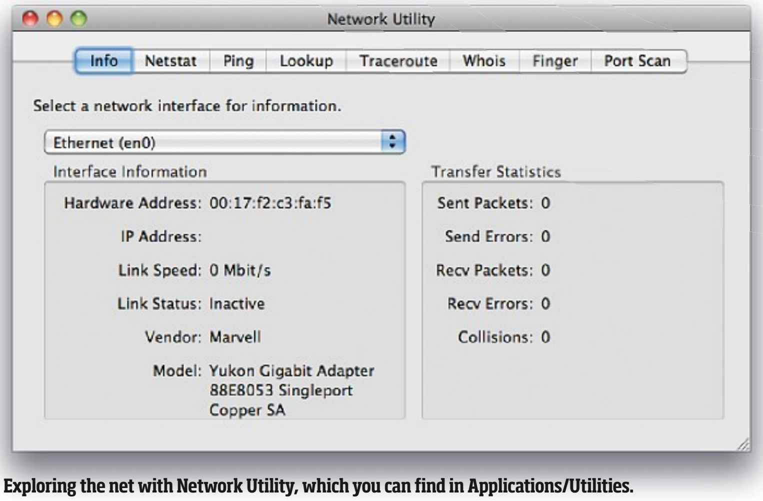
Find the tools you need to get savvy with networking

>>QUICK TIP

Machines on a local network that uses network address translation (NAT) aren't usually visible to the internet, but depending on your network, you might want to run stealth mode anyway. The people on a home network are probably trustworthier than the people on the open WiFi at a coffee shop.

Every UNIX distribution comes with a full complement of networking tools, and Mac OS X is certainly no exception. Generally you have to go to the command line to use UNIX tools, but Apple has bundled the most common network utilities into a graphical application aptly named *Network Utility*, which lives in /Applications/Utilities.

Network Utility encompasses eight areas of functionality. Each lives in its own tab, with several subfeatures delimited with pop-up boxes, as shown in the screengrab to the right.



Select a network interface for information.

Ethernet (en0)

Interface Information

Hardware Address: 00:17:f2:c3:fa:f5
IP Address:
Link Speed: 0 Mbit/s
Link Status: Inactive
Vendor: Marvell
Model: Yukon Gigabit Adapter 88E8053 Singleport Copper SA

Transfer Statistics

Sent Packets: 0
Send Errors: 0
Recv Packets: 0
Recv Errors: 0
Collisions: 0

Exploring the net with Network Utility, which you can find in Applications/Utilities.

Info

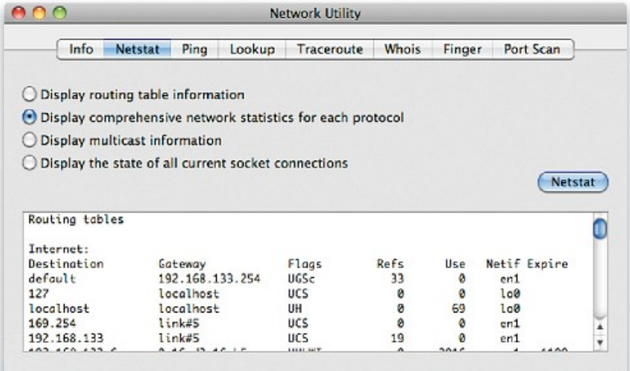
Chances are your computer has several network interfaces. Most Macs have an Ethernet port, an AirPort card, and a FireWire bus, all of which are capable of connecting to the internet.

The Info panel lets you get statistics on all your network interfaces, such as their hardware (MAC) and internet (IP) addresses, their make and model, whether they're active, and at what speed they are connected. You can also see how many packets they've sent and received and how many errors and collisions they've logged.

Netstat

Netstat, as its name implies, provides network statistics in four varieties.

- Routing Table – this is a map of known nodes from which your packets can begin their long trek across the internet. This is not unlike a list of your local post offices.
- Statistics – this is a comprehensive list of statistics by protocol. This is the long version of the simple numbers displayed by *Activity Monitor* and the Info tab. If you're curious to know how many inbound IPsec/IPv6 packets failed because of insufficient memory, here's where you can find out.
- Multicast – this many-to-many communication protocol is used primarily by enterprise networks, though it's also used by mDNS, peer-to-peer technologies, and Internet Relay Chat (IRC). If you want to monitor your multicast memberships or packet statistics, Netstat is there for you.
- Socket States – every connection on the internet uses a socket, which is the combination of your computer's IP address and a port. It's not a bad idea to see who's connecting to your machine and what they're doing.



○ Display routing table information
● Display comprehensive network statistics for each protocol
○ Display multicast information
○ Display the state of all current socket connections

```
Routing tables

Internet:
Destination        Gateway            Flags        Refs      Use   Netif Expire
default            192.168.133.254    UGSc           33        0     en1
127                localhost          UCS             0        0     lo0
localhost          localhost          UH              0       69     lo0
169.254            link#5             UCS             0        0     en1
192.168.133        link#5             UCS            19        0     en1
```

For all your network statistics click on Netstat, which you'll find in the Info panel.

> *"Network Utility encompasses eight areas of functionality, in its own tab, with several subfeatures"*

Ping

Ping is a diagnostic tool that uses the Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) to determine your ability to reach a given IP address, be it another computer or something like a router. The theory behind *Ping* is that any machine that receives a ping is supposed to echo it back. Unfortunately, *Ping* has been attacked by malware in the past – hence the stealth mode.

To use *Ping* in Network Utility, enter an IP address or domain name. *Ping* will then list the pings as they return, along with how long it took them to traverse the network. This is useful in any number of ways.

For example, if your website goes down but your web host responds to pings, you can deduce that the host program crashed but that the server is OK. If the server does not respond to pings, you can assume something is wrong on a hardware level.

Similarly, if your server responds by IP address but doesn't respond by domain name, you can deduce that something is wrong with the Domain Name System (DNS). Further investigation would be needed to determine whether the domain name has expired or whether there is something else going on. These can also be determined elsewhere in *Network Utility*.

Lookup

The Lookup tab combines the nslookup and dig tools to query DNS,

ADVANCED NETWORKING WITH DARWIN / Take it one step further

The underlying BSD system, accessible from the *Terminal* application, is the place to go for advanced hacking. The following listing shows a handy shell script for rerouting a web address to your local machine.

```
#! /bin/sh
if [ -f “/etc/hosts.old” ] ; then
sudo mv -f /etc/hosts.old /etc/hosts
fi
new_host=$1
if [ “$new_host” = “” ] ; then
exit
fi
sudo cp /etc/hosts /etc/hosts.old
cat /etc/hosts > hosts.new
echo “127.0.0.1  $new_host” >> hosts.new
sudo mv -f hosts.new /etc/hosts
```

Say you were working on a local copy of your website. All your absolute links would still point to your server, until you ran the localize script:

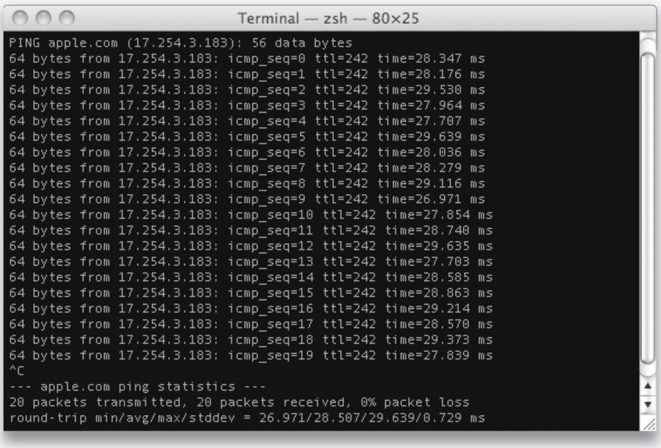
```
./localize.sh mywebsite.com
```

When you were done editing your site, you would run the localize script with no argument to return things to normal:

```
./localize.sh
```

Many networking utilities have more options than are available from within **Network Utility**. There are also esoteric, specialized, and third-party tools that don't have graphical versions and can be run only in *Terminal*. Even utilities like *Ping* are at your disposal.

So, while *Network Utility* is a good place to start, when you're ready to become a network power user, open *Terminal* and start reading man pages.



```
PING apple.com (17.254.3.183): 56 data bytes
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=0 ttl=242 time=28.347 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=1 ttl=242 time=28.176 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=2 ttl=242 time=29.530 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=3 ttl=242 time=27.964 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=4 ttl=242 time=27.707 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=5 ttl=242 time=29.639 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=6 ttl=242 time=28.036 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=7 ttl=242 time=28.279 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=8 ttl=242 time=29.116 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=9 ttl=242 time=26.971 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=10 ttl=242 time=27.854 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=11 ttl=242 time=28.740 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=12 ttl=242 time=29.635 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=13 ttl=242 time=27.703 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=14 ttl=242 time=28.585 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=15 ttl=242 time=28.863 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=16 ttl=242 time=29.214 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=17 ttl=242 time=28.570 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=18 ttl=242 time=29.373 ms
64 bytes from 17.254.3.183: icmp_seq=19 ttl=242 time=27.839 ms
^C
--- apple.com ping statistics ---
20 packets transmitted, 20 packets received, 0% packet loss
round-trip min/avg/max/stddev = 26.971/28.507/29.639/0.729 ms
```

You can run your Mac's network tools from the command line in Terminal.

Some good *Darwin* network utilities to read up on would be ifconfig, which lets you configure your network interfaces, similar to the **Network** panel in *System Preferences*; and **tcpdump**, which lets you examine the contents of network packets and replaces the popular tcpflow application.

which converts human-readable web addresses to the numerical IP addresses used by computers. The information returned by Lookup varies by host, but at the very least you can use it to get the IP address of a given server name.

Traceroute

Traceroute maps the path of packets as they travel to a given server address. Aside from being kind of interesting, it's a useful diagnostic tool. When a server is unreachable, you can use *Traceroute* to figure out where the packets are being stopped and whom you need to call to get traffic flowing.

Like *Ping*, *Traceroute* has been abused by nefarious forces, so some servers will block *Traceroute* requests. Even so, you can usually get to the outer bounds of a given network, which will certainly tell you something, so *Traceroute* remains a good thing to have in your toolbox.

Whois

As opposed to the tools in **Lookup**, which convert domain names into IP addresses, *Whois* queries domain registries to determine who owns them. There are a couple of reasons why you might want to know this.

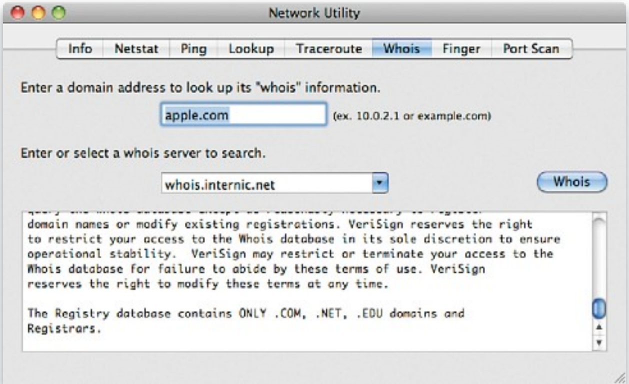
If your site is down and your server is reachable by IP address, but not by domain name, one possibility is that your domain name has expired or has been stolen. Checking the *Whois* information will let you know this information for sure. If *Whois* checks out OK, you can begin suspecting something is wrong with the name server itself.

Should you find that your packets are being stopped at a certain node via *Traceroute*, *Whois* will tell you whom you need to contact about it. It's also a good way to see whether a domain name is available and, if it's not, to see when it expires. There's absolutely no sense in putting up good money for a domain-watching service if the registration is not going to expire for another five years.

“Putting your name, email, address, and phone number where anyone can get them is a privacy concern”

As with many parts of the internet, *Whois* registries have been abused. Putting your name, email address, home address, and telephone number where anyone can get them is a potential privacy concern.

As such, some registrars now offer anonymous registration, whereby they will register the domain in their own name on your behalf, preventing people from getting any useful information about you. As with any such tactic, this certainly improves security by some degree, while breaking the internet by another.



Enter a domain address to look up its "whois" information.

apple.com (ex. 10.0.2.1 or example.com)

Enter or select a whois server to search.

whois.internic.net

```
domain names or modify existing registrations. VeriSign reserves the right
to restrict your access to the Whois database in its sole discretion to ensure
operational stability.  VeriSign may restrict or terminate your access to the
Whois database for failure to abide by these terms of use. VeriSign
reserves the right to modify these terms at any time.

The Registry database contains ONLY .COM, .NET, .EDU domains and
Registrars.
```

Whois queries domain registries to determine who owns them, so you can check any problems.

Finger

In the halcyon days of yore, when spam was just a delicious luncheon meat and the internet was just a military research project, a computer scientist named Les Earnest wrote a program that would take an email address and "point out" who it belonged to by giving you the person's name, whether they were logged on, and where their home directory was.

When the internet opened up for general use, people soon found less earnest uses for *Finger*, and the protocol was eventually abandoned. The tool still exists but mainly as a way to generate the words the connection refused.

QUICK TIP

Machines on a local network that uses network address translation (NAT) aren't usually visible to the internet, but depending on your network, you might want to run stealth mode anyway. The people on a home network are probably trustworthier than the people on the open WiFi at a coffee shop.

Wireless Networking with AirPort explained

Get to grips with making AirPort work for you on your wireless network

QUICK TIP

If at all possible, avoid using a standard based on the Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) protocol. It's better than nothing, but at this point, even a moderately competent attacker can crack a WEP key with ease. If you have to use WEP to support older hardware, make it habit to frequently change your password. You should also steer clear of WPA2 Enterprise, which requires a special RADIUS server far beyond the means and needs of the everyday user.

We would be remiss not to mention a very important networking tool that comes in a pretty graphical package–*AirPort Utility* – which lives in Applications/Utilities.

AirPort Utility replaces the old *AirPort Setup Assistant* and *AirPort Admin Utility* programs with a single, attractive, easy-to-use application. *AirPort Utility* also adds several new features and makes it easier to manage multiple AirPort base stations.

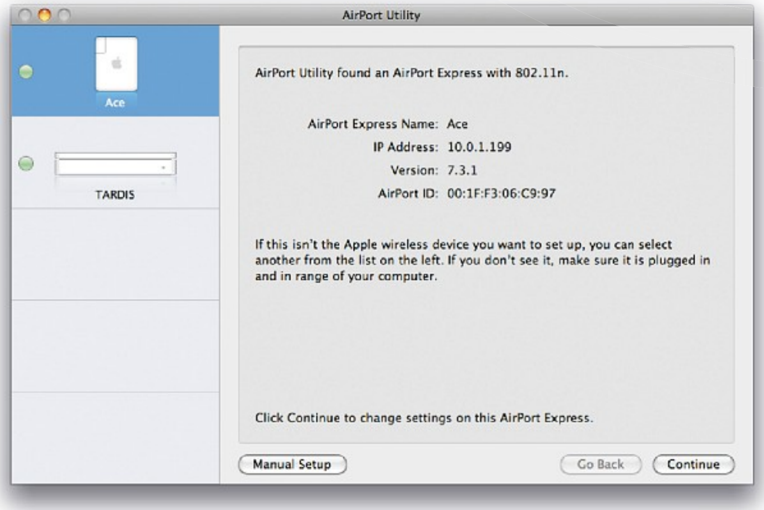
At its most basic, *AirPort Utility* will show you which AirPort base stations are operating in your area, their names, and their IP and AirPort addresses, as well as which standards and firmware versions they support.

If one or more of the base stations in range belong to you, rename them and change their settings.

The availability and usefulness of settings in *AirPort Utility* will vary depending on which model of AirPort base station you have, its firmware version, and the peculiarities of your internet provider. There are, however, some settings you should look at:

- **Profiles (Base Station > Manage Profiles)** These are groups of settings you can easily switch between. This is handy if you travel with an AirPort base station so you can, say, share a net connection.

Manage your AirPort base station by tweaking the settings in AirPort Utility.



AirPort Utility found an AirPort Express with 802.11n.

AirPort Express Name: Ace
IP Address: 10.0.1.199
Version: 7.3.1
AirPort ID: 00:1F:F3:06:C9:97

If this isn't the Apple wireless device you want to set up, you can select another from the list on the left. If you don't see it, make sure it is plugged in and in range of your computer.

Click Continue to change settings on this AirPort Express.

Apple's AirPort Utility is one easy-to-use application to help manage all your AirPort stations.

- **Identify (Base Station >Identify...)** This convenient menu item tells the base station to flash its status light, alternating amber and green. That way, you can figure out which base station you're dealing with, without having to figure out people's naming schemes.

> *"The usefulness of the settings in AirPort Utility will vary depending on your model of base station"*

- **Wireless Security (Airport > Wireless)** Unless you're intentionally running an open access point, you need to protect your network by setting up encryption and a password from the **Wireless** tab of the AirPort panel. Several encryption standards are in common use, but you should probably choose one based on WiFi Protected Access, such as WPA2 Personal. AirPort's recommended setting is WPA/WPA2 Personal, which supports the older version of WPA for backward compatibility. If you have machines that do not support WPA2, you can use this setting, but in general, you want to limit the abilities of your AirPort base station to those needed by the machines that you own.
- **Radio Mode (Airport > Wireless)** This single setting resides right above the security options on the **Wireless** tab. Because an AirPort base station will support up to four wireless standards, you should check this to ensure you're using the smallest, fastest set of standards that will meet your needs. For example, if all your machines have an 802.11n AirPort card, supporting the a, b, or g standards could needlessly slow the network down, besides making it all the more usable by uninvited guests.
- **MAC Access Control (Airport > Access)** This panel lets you filter access by hardware ID. This can be used to close a network to guests or to impose time limits on certain machines, should you need to. This should be used only for convenience, not security. Unlike a password, a MAC address can be easily spoofed.

PORT FORWARDING / Set your router to forward packets

A typical home or small office network will have a single machine, usually a router, connected to the internet by a public IP address. That machine, in turn, will share its internet connection with other machines on the network. Rather than having public IP addresses, the machines on the local network use local addresses. Aside from saving the significant expense of having multiple IP addresses, this gives the network added security, since machines without reachable addresses are essentially invisible to anyone outside the network.

Normally this is a good thing, but not always (such as if you decide to use your computer to serve web pages). Invisibility is not a good trait for a public web server. In order to receive requests and send out pages, your web server must be reachable by the outside world. The best way to deal with this problem is to set the router to forward any incoming packets on a certain port to the web server, which can then fulfill the requests and send out the necessary data. This process is known as port forwarding.

Of course, the router can't forward packets if it doesn't know where to find the server, so the first step is to give your machine a static IP address. You can either use a hybrid method such as DHCP with a manual address, or you can just set the entire address manually. To set up a static IP address, open the **Networking** panel of *System Preferences*. Select the network interface your machine will use to connect to the internet. Since servers need to stay in one place in order to effectively serve, this will probably be a desktop machine connected by Ethernet.

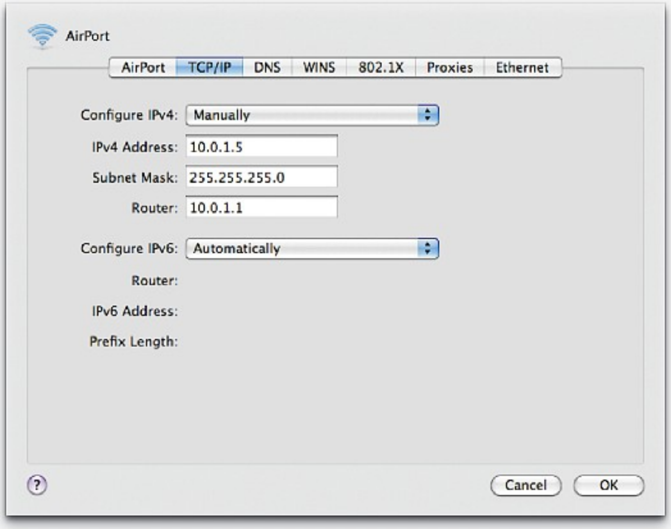
That said, there's no technical reason why you can't serve your pages over another interface, such as AirPort. In fact, we're going to use AirPort in this example. Click the **Advanced...** button to reveal the **Advanced Settings** sheet, and then click the **TCP/IP** tab.

Make a note of your IPv4 address, subnet mask, and router address, as well as which ports you're trying to access. In the case of serving web pages, the default is 80, so if you changed it earlier, make a note of that. It's not a bad idea to confirm from within the local network that the socket you will be forwarding to works, which will make testing the forwarding that much easier.

Once you have the IP address set and the ports open and tested, configure your router to forward messages on the appropriate ports to your machine's IP address and local port. Every router is different, so you'll have to read the manual or search the internet for the exact information. That said, Apple's AirPort base stations are DHCP-enabled routers, so we'll show how to set one up as an example. Open *AirPort Utility*, and sign in to the base station that connects your web server to the internet.

Click the **Manual Configuration** button, select the **Advanced** panel, and then select the **Port Mapping** tab. You can also reach this tab by clicking the **Configure Port Mappings...** button on the NAT tab of the **Internet** panel. Either way, the port mappings are just a list of ports. To add yours, click the **+** button, and then fill out the form. The **Public Port Number(s)** field lists the ports you want forwarded. In this example, we're assuming our ISP blocks port 80, so we're mapping port 8080. Of course, there's no reason we couldn't map them both, just in case.

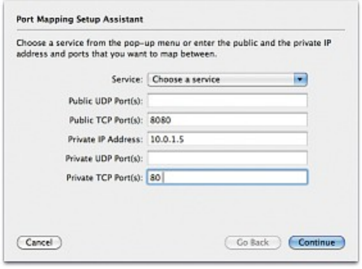
The **Private IP Address** field lists the IP address of the machine receiving the packets, which is to say your web server. Enter the IP address you gave it in *System Preferences*. Finally, enter the port you want to receive the packets on in the **Private Port Number(s)** field. Click the **OK** button to dismiss the sheet, and then click the **Update** button to commit your changes. After the base station reboots, test your forwarding by accessing your website using the outside IP address.



Configure IPv4: Manually
IPv4 Address: 10.0.1.5
Subnet Mask: 255.255.255.0
Router: 10.0.1.1
Configure IPv6: Automatically
Router:
IPv6 Address:
Prefix Length:

If you wish, you can set up a static IP address in System Preferences.

- **DHCP (Internet > DHCP)** From this panel, you can limit the range of IP addresses DHCP uses, limit the length of a DHCP lease, and set a custom message displayed when people log in to your base station. You can also reserve IP addresses, which is particularly useful with port mapping.
- **Port Mapping (Advanced > Port Mapping)** Typically your AirPort base station will have a single public IP address shared among the private addresses of your network. In order to reach a service on an individual machine from outside the local network, you have to map it to a port on your AirPort base station in a process known as port forwarding. We'll come back to this in a moment.
- **Logs and Statistics (Advanced > Statistics)** *AirPort Utility* lets you monitor your network usage. For example, see a list of all the computers connected to the base station, including their MAC and IP addresses.



Choose a service from the pop-up menu or enter the public and the private IP address and ports that you want to map between.

Service: Choose a service
Public UDP Port(s):
Public TCP Port(s): 8080
Private IP Address: 10.0.1.5
Private UDP Port(s):
Private TCP Port(s): 80

You can set up your port forwarding easily by heading over to AirPort Utility.

- **Remote Printing (Printers)** By connecting a printer to your AirPort base station, you can allow any machine on the network to use the printer. This is an improvement over standard printer sharing because it doesn't require a host computer.
- **AirPort Disks (Disks)** In a similar way to printer sharing, you can connect USB hard drives to your AirPort base station, which will allow them to be shared by other people on your network.

Sharing a disk connected to an AirPort base station – known as network-attached storage (NAS) – is a good feature, particularly if you have a laptop. Shared disks host files that can be accessed over your network or, used in conjunction with MobileMe's Back to My Mac feature, the internet.

Unlike a printer, hard drives contain personal data, which can raise certain privacy issues. Apple lets you set up user accounts, password protection, and permissions on shared drives. That way, multiple people can use the same drive without having access to each other's data. ●

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Q&A

>> MEET YOUR Q&A EXPERT

Whatever your Mac-related problem, from misbehaving MacBooks to a wireless networks, Luis Villazon can help.

● HINTS & TIPS ● TROUBLESHOOTING ● EXPERT ADVICE ● ESSENTIAL INFO

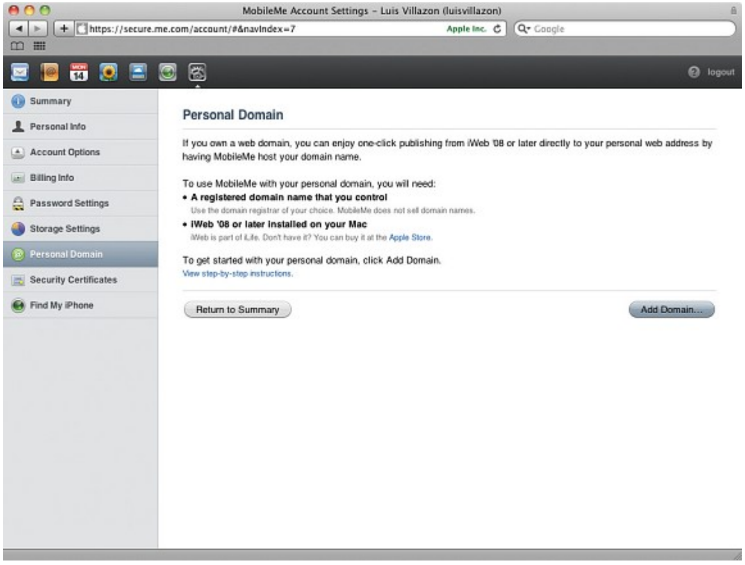
>> ASK LUIS A QUESTION

Got a problem with your Mac? Then why not send your queries to Luis at **macformat.helpline@futurenet.com** and see if he can help.

"How do I host two websites to one account?"

Q I use OS 10.5.8 on an Intel Macbook. I have created two websites in *iWeb 8*, one of which has published to my .mac account. How can I publish *both* to my one .mac account and direct browsers to two different index.html pages? Currently the second one is hosted by a free hosting account, which is not suitable. I have Multiweb but I can't seem to get it to publish both sites to .Mac and enable browsers to point to either.

Tony Markey



Personal Domain

If you own a web domain, you can enjoy one-click publishing from iWeb '08 or later directly to your personal web address by having MobileMe host your domain name.

To use MobileMe with your personal domain, you will need:

- **A registered domain name that you control**
  Use the domain registrar of your choice. MobileMe does not sell domain names.
- **iWeb '08 or later installed on your Mac**
  iWeb is part of iLife. Don't have it? You can buy it at the Apple Store.

To get started with your personal domain, click Add Domain.
View step-by-step instructions.

You'll outgrow MobileMe pretty quickly once you want to host more than one website.

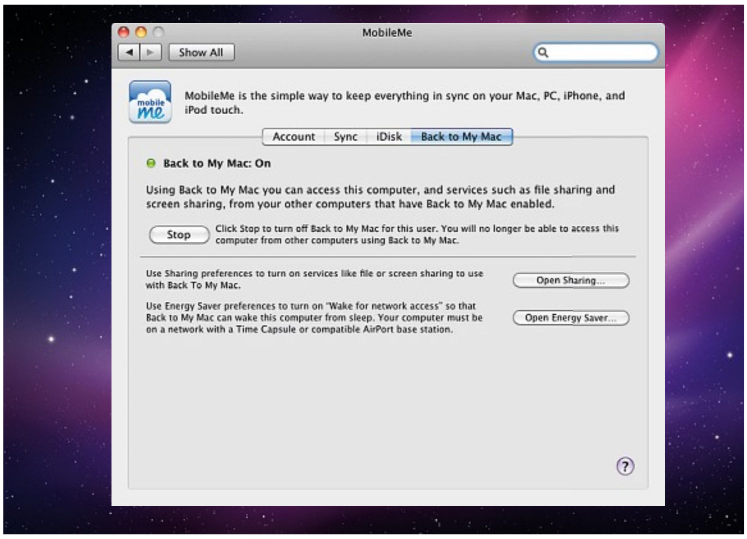
A MobileMe (which used to be called .Mac) isn't designed for this. It is set up to allow friends-and-family-style web pages to be hosted quickly and easily. As soon as you try and host two separate sites with different domain names, you are going to hit problems.

Free hosting seems to be unsatisfactory for the same reason that anything free is unsatisfactory – if it was worth paying for, they'd be charging. But you are already paying for hosting with MobileMe so your current setup isn't free either. If you spend that same subscription money on a paid hosting service, you can move both sites there and cancel your MobileMe account altogether. HostExcellence.com, for example, charges $7.95 a month (about £62 a year, compared with £59 for MobileMe) and will allow you multiple domains as well as unlimited space and data transfer. I'm not personally endorsing them and you'll inevitably lose some of the convenience of MobileMe's tight integration with *iWeb* but in your case, independent, paid hosting of some kind is definitely the way to go.

For networking, treat Time Capsule as you would an AirPort Extreme base station.

"How can I route properly with an Orange Livebox?"

Q I use a Livebox (via Orange's broadband service), which, I understand, restricts its connection to five machines. I have turned off the wireless facility on the Livebox, which is connected using Ethernet to a Time Capsule/AirPort Extreme base station. The AirPort Extreme provides the wireless facility for the computers at home. However, certain computers are not getting internet



MobileMe is the simple way to keep everything in sync on your Mac, PC, iPhone, and iPod touch.

Back to My Mac: On

Using Back to My Mac you can access this computer, and services such as file sharing and screen sharing, from your other computers that have Back to My Mac enabled.

Click Stop to turn off Back to My Mac for this user. You will no longer be able to access this computer from other computers using Back to My Mac.

Use Sharing preferences to turn on services like file or screen sharing to use with Back To My Mac.

Use Energy Saver preferences to turn on "Wake for network access" so that Back to My Mac can wake this computer from sleep. Your computer must be on a network with a Time Capsule or compatible AirPort base station.

Back to My Mac isn't as good as a complete remote admin package but it's easy to set up.

access recently after I had to strip down the network and set it up again. I think the problem may be due to the fact that the Livebox is distributing the IP addresses (thus restricted to five). We have nine potential connections, which is well within the limit of the AirPort Extreme. This is in Bridge Mode. When I try to change the AirPort Extreme, it states "the DHCP range you have entered conflicts with the WAN IP address of your Apple wireless device."

Doug Cooper

A While in Bridge Mode, the AirPort Extreme base station portion of your Time Capsule doesn't provide any network address translation (NAT). The Livebox takes the external IP address supplied by Orange Internet and shares it between five internal IP addresses for your home network, it then passes them over to the AirPort Extreme. This broadcasts the network packets wirelessly but leaves the IP addresses unchanged. So you're still restricted to the five-address limit that is imposed by the Livebox.

So, ideally what you will need to do next is take the Time Capsule out of Bridge Mode and put it over into NAT mode. This will add an extra layer of routing that takes one of the five IP addresses handed out by the Livebox and splits it into as many wireless addresses as you need.

The DHCP conflict that you're getting just means you need to make sure that the IP numbers the Time Capsule hands out don't overlap with any of the five numbers used by the Livebox.

"How can I set up a network for multiple Macs?"

Q How can I set up a home network with multiple Macs, so any member of the family can use any of the Macs to log in and get his/her working environment? Currently I have a working LAN with NAS (Linux based) for shared files as well as a MobileMe family account. I'm not worried about installing software manually on every Mac. But I'd like to keep passwords in sync (so I can log in everywhere with the same username/password and when I change it on one machine the change is propagated to the others) as well as access rights. So if Son1 is working on Mac2, since Wife1 is occupying Mac1 he still can retrieve files he has access to on Mac1.

That management also goes for Linux and Windows machines – but seeing as you're a Mac magazine, I'll settle for the Mac answer!

Stephan Wissel

A One option would be to use Apple Remote Desktop but that costs £239 for 10 systems and has a fairly steep learning curve. Depending on how often Son1 is kicked off his system, a better option is to use the Back To My Mac facility of MobileMe. This will let him remotely access files or the desktop of his Mac from any other Leopard Mac on the net (or LAN).

»

Passwords on your person

Bill Gallop

One useful feature of Mac OS X is the concept of a keychain. A keychain contains a number of secure items such as passwords for websites, servers and programs, as well as security certificates, which prove your identity when sending encrypted emails and chats or when accessing secure services like a VPN. All of these separate items can be contained within a single keychain, which is accessible via a master password.

Your Mac actually has several keychains – one for each user called the Login Keychain, which is unlocked automatically when they log in, and several that are used by the system itself. Each user also has a default keychain where any new items are saved; this is usually the same as their Login Keychain.

Having the Login Keychain set as the default keychain sounds like a good idea at first – all you have to do is log in to your Mac and you can then access all the secure places that you need to access without having to remember any more passwords. While being convenient, however, this can also be a very bad thing. If anybody is able to log in to your Mac they will have access to all of your secure items and if you're using somebody else's Mac you have to be able to remember what all of your passwords are, since your keychain will be back on your own Mac.

> *"Having the Login Keychain set as the default keychain sounds like a good idea at first. But it can also be a very bad thing"*

The answer to this is to keep your keychain on a USB key. Format the USB key as **Mac OS X Extended** then open up *Keychain Access* from **Applications/Utilities**. Create a new keychain file using the **File** menu and store the keychain on the USB key using a secure password; you can use the **Password Assistant** in the dialog to check how secure your password is. Next, select the new keychain, go to the **File** menu and choose **Make Default**. Any new items will now be stored on your USB key, but you will need to move any existing ones over by dragging and dropping them from your Login Keychain to the new one. Make sure not to move things like your AirPort password, or anything the Mac uses when logging in.

Simply plug the USB key in before you log in to your Mac and remove it when you log out. To use your keychain on another Mac, open *Keychain Access*, click the **+** button and select the keychain on your USB key. Don't forget to remove it from *Keychain Access* when you have finished.

Bill is Mac Solutions Consultant for Equanet (www.equanet.co.uk). Each month he will share his knowledge with you, from upgrading your operating system to the advantages of RAW files.

» QUICK TIP

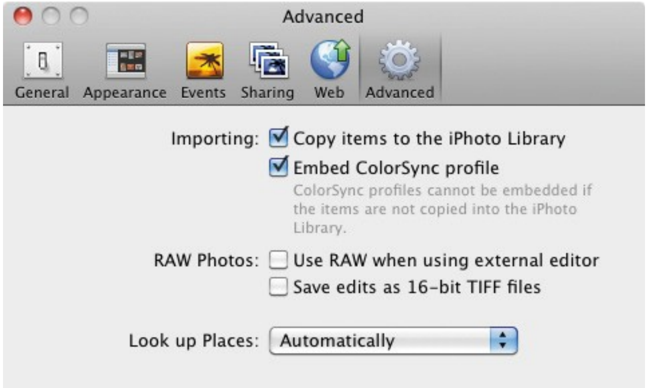
Most OS X applications will automatically drop items from the toolbar as you shrink the window, to prevent it from getting too cluttered. If you want to make sure that some items are always available, you can right-click (or ctrl-click) them and choose **Keep Item Visible**.

"Why are photo formats not recognised?"

Q **I have recently installed Snow Leopard and use an Epson 2580 scanner. If I use *Image Capture*, set to JPEG and successfully capture an image, *iPhoto* refuses to import it, stating that the format is unknown.**

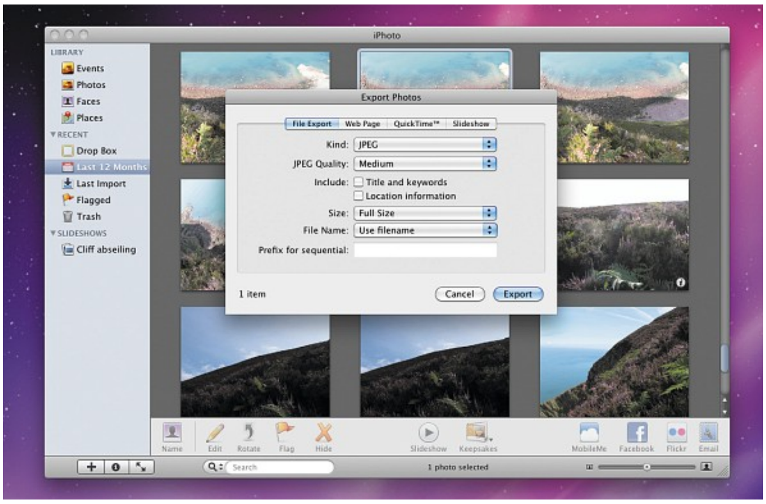
However, I have found if I scan in a TIFF or any other format and use *Preview* to convert the file to JPEG, *iPhoto* still refuses to import the picture, again stating that the format is unknown. It would appear that there is a fundamental error in the *iPhoto, Preview* or *Image Capture* applications since I would expect all the Apple programs to be compatible with each other.

Dr Alan Wagland



Importing: ☑ Copy items to the iPhoto Library
☑ Embed ColorSync profile
ColorSync profiles cannot be embedded if the items are not copied into the iPhoto Library.
RAW Photos: ☐ Use RAW when using external editor
☐ Save edits as 16-bit TIFF files
Look up Places: Automatically

Corrupted colour sync profiles can prevent iPhoto from importing images.



Kind: JPEG
JPEG Quality: Medium
Include: ☐ Title and keywords
☐ Location information
Size: Full Size
File Name: Use filename
Prefix for sequential:

Exporting images to JPEG files will 'bake' iPhoto modifications into the files themselves.

A This is a rare but persistent bug in *iPhoto* that has been around since well before Snow Leopard. No one seems to know exactly what triggers it but it seems to be related to the colour profile of the images. Try opening iPhoto > Preferences > Advanced and ticking the box to Embed ColorSync profile. If you are using anything older than *iLife '08*, it may also help to upgrade.

"Why do my photos rotate themselves?"

Q **I have a problem in transferring portrait-orientated photographs from *iPhoto* to *iWeb, iNotes, iDVD* and even to wallpaper in that they revert to landscape.**

My work method is to take the photo in the orientation required; import to disk using *Nikon Project*; then import to *iPhoto*; and correct orientation in *iPhoto*.

If I use these as media in any *iLife*/Mac applications, the photographs revert to landscape. If I use my Panasonic Lumix it automatically sets as original and does not require rotating.

Lloyd Morris

A You would think that rotating an image was an entirely reversible process but this is not the case – even

» MACFIXIT TIPS / Sound issues

Several users are experiencing an issue with their audio output not showing up, leaving them with no sound and an error message in *System Preferences* stating, **No output devices found**.

There appears to be two issues with the audio problem. As Apple Support Discussions user Marius Piatek explains, one issue is:

"Some people lost their audio but they can still hear the startup sound, but no sound afterwards. This is because an update screws up your sound controls probably. Do not worry, this is not a hardware issue as you can hear the sound once you power your mac. You can fix it adjusting sound settings in the Pref panel."

And the other issue is that: "There is no startup sound or output devices shown. This seems like the driver does not exist. When you try to turn the volume up, the logo is greyed out and under the volume there is a stop icon. I was on 10.5.8 and my sound was working perfectly. Then I switched to Snow Leopard and it worked for a few days until I put my Mac to sleep and the next day I realised I had this issue. Upgrading to 10.6.1 did not help. I am not sure if this happened before or after upgrade."

Some users have found solutions by resetting PRAM, removing audio preference files, or reinstalling Snow Leopard, though most users continue to see the problem. ASD user SteveKain offers this:

"I fixed this by going into **Sounds Preferences** and selecting **Headphones** in the **Sound Output Device** menu. I've got external speakers plugged into the headphones socket and these are detected and listed as 'headphones'. When I unplug the speakers the option in the preferences menu reverts to 'internal speakers'.

The other option visible in the sound output device menu is **Screenflick audio device**, and for some reason the system had defaulted to this option automatically, resulting in greyed out audio symbol and no sound."

If you are experiencing these symptoms with your audio, take your machine to an Apple Authorized AppleCare agent or your local Apple Store to have them diagnose it.

MacFixIt
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh
Tips supplied by MacFixit.com

if you're only rotating through 90 or 180 degrees. JPEG images are compressed by dividing them up into blocks and then reducing the number of bits that are required to specify the colour information for each block. Unless the original image dimensions are an exact multiple of the JPEG block size (normally 8 or 16 pixels), the block boundaries will fall in a different place on the rotated image. This means you need to decompress the whole thing, then rotate it and recompress. And every time you recompress a JPEG, you lose a little bit of image information forever.

To guard against that, *iPhoto* keeps the original whenever it rotates an image – just as it would for any other modification to the image. Generally, this behaviour goes unnoticed and simply provides a backup, should you want to make other adjustments to the image before rotating. But some cameras contain tilt sensors that spot when you are holding them in portrait orientation. The image is still written to the memory card as a landscape picture but the camera sets a flag, advising that the image needs rotation. Some applications look out for this flag and some don't, so it's possible to end up with an image that gets rotated twice or not at all, depending on what happens to the orientation flag as the image moves through your workflow.

If you export the images from *iPhoto* to files, rather than directly into another application, you'll force the slightly degraded, recompressed version to get written out and subsequent applications should then respect the orientation you specified.

>> MACFIXIT TIPS / App Store updating updates

Apps from the App Store are not properly updating after users attempt to download the newer versions of their mobile programs. Users experience symptoms such as: downloading the updated App only to have the previous version still installed; installing the newer App and receiving notification that they need to update their App (despite running the latest version); and not being able to download the update at all.

Apple Support Discussions user T. Edwards reports:

"I've had it three times now (and this is both in *iTunes* as well as on the iPhone).

It says I have an app update, so I update the app. But then it still says I have the same app update to do and don't know how to get rid of the (1) that hovers on the app."

After asking Apple for support, users report that the recommendation is to delete the Apps that are not acting properly and download them again. However, ASD user Stuart Chapman relays:

"I also have the same problem. It started earlier this week. It's always the most recently updated app that gets stuck and *iTunes* thinks that it needs to download an update even though the update has already been downloaded and installed. Yesterday it listed an update for *Trip Advisor* even though I had already downloaded and installed the update.

This morning the same update was still showing. However, when I clicked **Check for updates**, *iTunes* found other apps that required an update. It downloaded those and then *Trip Advisor* disappeared from the list of updates and instead now the latest app to be updated is now stuck in **update available** mode. Very frustrating. I have tried completely deleting the impacted apps and then re-downloading. Doesn't help."

There does not appear to be a fix for this on the user's side. It appears that Apple must solve the issue and roll it out. Should Apple update this issue, we will be sure to report on it.

MacFixIt
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh
Tips supplied by MacFixit.com

"How can I run my old software on a new Mac?"

Q I am trying to reinstall my old Adobe design package on my new Mac. This consists of *Photoshop 7, Illustrator 10, InDesign 2.0*, and *Acrobat 5*. After being guided to install *Rosetta* into Snow Leopard OSX 10.6 for compatability, Acrobat 5 installed correctly, however, none of the other three were successful.

***Photoshop 7* would start up then shut down stating 'An unexpected and unrecoverable problem has occurred because of program error.' *Illustrator 10*, when installed would disappear all together. And so on, much to my despair.**

Advice given from the Apple store was to buy *CS3* second-hand. Although I would at some point upgrade to a *CS* package via Adobe, there is nothing wrong with my existing package (on my old machine). The iMac was expensive enough without replacing all my software.

Stephen P. Smith

A I completely sympathise with this problem, as it's quite possible for the cost of the software to exceed the cost of the hardware on some systems.

But, saying that, *Photoshop 7* is way back from 2002… and that's a really long time in computer years. *Photoshop 7* was the last version to be released for Classic Mac OS. Since then, we've had five whole versions of OS X, as well as the move from Power PC to Intel processors; so let's face it, it's not surprising that software from this era isn't fully compatible. And in fact, insisting on perfect backward compatibility way back to the dawn of time is one of the annoying things that makes PCs so clunky and awkward. So perhaps we shouldn't be complaining too loudly.

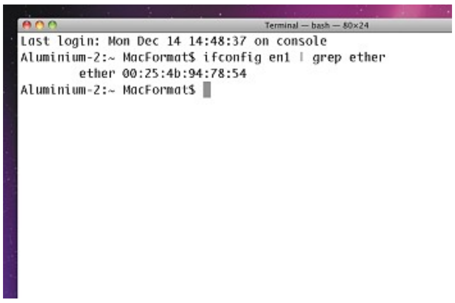
My upgrade philosophy has always been to buy software with my hardware, wherever possible that is. If I have important productivity software, I'll keep the computer it's running on until I don't need that software any more. *CS3* can sometimes be had for under £100 on eBay, you just need to be a little patient/lucky with your bids. »

>> QUICK TIP

Select multiple items in *Finder* and open them in *Preview*, to get each loaded as a separate page in the *Preview* window. View as a slideshow with ⇧+⌘+F.

New hardware often means new software.

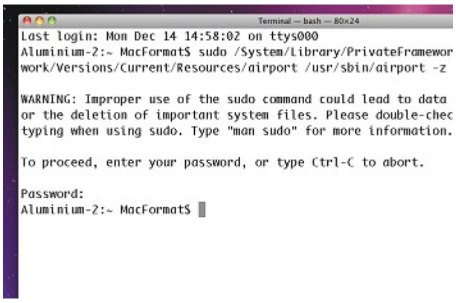
HOW TO / Change your MAC address



```
Last login: Mon Dec 14 14:48:37 on console
Aluminium-2:~ MacFormat$ ifconfig en1 | grep ether
        ether 00:25:4b:94:78:54
Aluminium-2:~ MacFormat$ 
```

01 Why do I want to?

Unlike your IP address, the Media Access Control, or MAC address is hardwired to your AirPort adaptor. Some routers and software apps restrict access by MAC address and to get around this you might need to spoof the MAC address on your Mac.



```
Last login: Mon Dec 14 14:58:02 on ttys000
Aluminium-2:~ MacFormat$ sudo /System/Library/PrivateFramewor
work/Versions/Current/Resources/airport /usr/sbin/airport -z

WARNING: Improper use of the sudo command could lead to data
or the deletion of important system files. Please double-chec
typing when using sudo. Type "man sudo" for more information.

To proceed, enter your password, or type Ctrl-C to abort.

Password:
Aluminium-2:~ MacFormat$ 
```

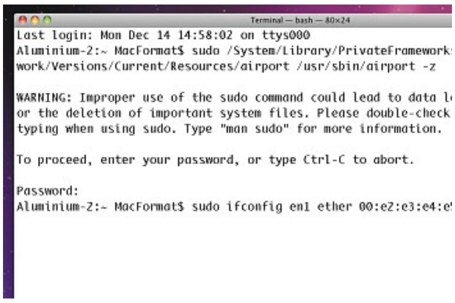
02 What's my MAC address?

Tap in the *Terminal* command:

```
ifconfig en1 | grep ether.
```

Now disassociate from all current wireless networks using this command:

```
sudo /System/ Library/ PrivateFrameworks/ Apple80211.
framework/ Versions/ Current/ Resources/ airport -z
```



```
Last login: Mon Dec 14 14:58:02 on ttys000
Aluminium-2:~ MacFormat$ sudo /System/Library/PrivateFramework
work/Versions/Current/Resources/airport /usr/sbin/airport -z

WARNING: Improper use of the sudo command could lead to data l
or the deletion of important system files. Please double-check
typing when using sudo. Type "man sudo" for more information.

To proceed, enter your password, or type Ctrl-C to abort.

Password:
Aluminium-2:~ MacFormat$ sudo ifconfig en1 ether 00:e2:e3:e4:e
```

03 Setting the new one

Change to the new address with:

```
sudo ifconfig en1 ether 00:00:00:00:00:00.
```

The new address can be any sequence of six, two-digit hexadecimal values but you'll probably want to copy the MAC address of a computer you know works on this router.

QUICK TIP

To reduce the amount of space your *Finder* toolbar takes up, ⌘-click the button in the top-right of the window and cycle to a new, more space-efficient arrangement.

"Why can't I burn discs in iTunes properly?"

Q On the several occasions that I have tried to burn a disc in *iTunes*, a message has appeared on screen stating "The attempt to burn a disc failed. The burn failed due to a medium write error." The disc ejects, mostly burning no songs at all (but on the odd occasion it burns a couple of songs), leaving the disc useless to me. I am using Verbatim CD-R 52x speed discs, which I never had a problem with on Windows before. I have also tried various burn speeds and am using the slowest at the moment but the same problem keeps occurring.

Shane Quinn

A Optical drives are one of the last really physical components in your Mac. They have motors that spin, they are exposed to the outside, they encourage you to introduce grubby, dusty, flawed contaminants to their delicate mechanism. It's surprising that they work at all, really.

Dropping the burn speed does fix the problem in a lot of marginal cases but if it doesn't, my next tactic is always to uses a CD lens cleaner. Especially on a notebook, because they collect a lot more fluff and junk. Just an ordinary audio CD cleaner from Amazon or a music shop is fine. It's just little brushes stuck on a CD, really. You can spray some iso-propyl alcohol on them (or at a pinch, gin) if you want. But really just the brushing works pretty well.

If it doesn't, well, changing brand of disc can help sometimes. Ignore all the advice you might read on the forums about resetting your PRAM and reinstalling OS X though. A medium write error is a physical problem – no amount of tweaking permissions is going to make a difference.

MACFIXIT TIPS / Songs skip before they finish

Users are experiencing issues with songs in *iTunes* skipping to the next song before they have finished. This issue appears to be a bug related to *iTunes*.

The skipping occurs in *iTunes* from 10-15 seconds before the end of the song. Some users have found that the location of the skip is random and could happen at any point. Apple Support Discussions user Crazyboy49 reports:

"After reinstalling my playlists from my backup CDs, *iTunes* will skip to another song right in the middle of some songs or just before the end of other songs. Is there a way to fix this?"

Many suggestions, including deleting **iTunes Library** files, **iTunes Preference** files, and reinstalling *iTunes* are fruitless. ASD user nate12345 suggests:

"Select one of the tracks that's skipping, and go to File > Get Info. Go to the **Options** tab, and make sure that **Stop Time** and **Start Time** are unchecked.

Note you can only do this for one song at a time. Users can check their song files to ensure they are not corrupt by opening the file in Quicktime. If the file has any gaps or oscillation, you may be dealing with a corrupt file. If not, the issue is likely still related to *iTunes*.

There does not appear to be an official fix from Apple at this point, though we will keep an eye on this issue and alert you should that change.

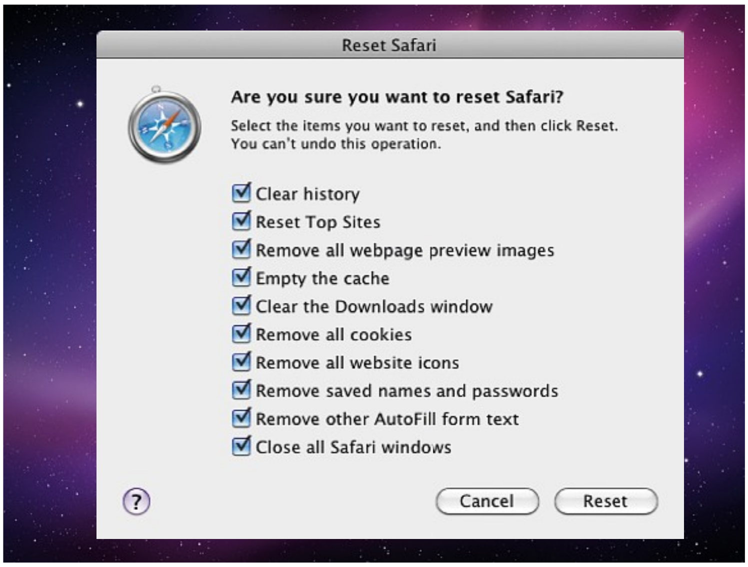
Tips supplied by MacFixit.com

MacFixIt, founded in 1996 by Ted Landau, has grown into the premiere destination for users seeking resolutions to bugs and conflicts. Visit **www.macfixit.com** for the latest Mac information.

MacFixIt
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh

"Why can't I stay signed into Google on my Mac?"

Q My Google account on my Mac keeps signing me out after I quit whatever browser I used to sign into Google. It only happens with my Google account and happens even though I totally removed *Firefox* and cleared the private data countless times. More



Are you sure you want to reset Safari?

Select the items you want to reset, and then click Reset. You can't undo this operation.

- ☑ Clear history
- ☑ Reset Top Sites
- ☑ Remove all webpage preview images
- ☑ Empty the cache
- ☑ Clear the Downloads window
- ☑ Remove all cookies
- ☑ Remove all website icons
- ☑ Remove saved names and passwords
- ☑ Remove other AutoFill form text
- ☑ Close all Safari windows

Reckless resetting in Safari might mean you need to log back into your sites again.

than that, the *Rosetta* option under the Get Info windows is not checked. Besides I can stay signed in other platforms like my Windows XP account on the campus or on my own iPhone.

Can Sürmeli

A Like all other websites, the Google server actually always signs you out when you leave the site, after a timeout period. When you think that you are still signed in, what is happening is the server silently logs you back in as soon as the page opens again. The login details that allow it to do this are stored away on your Mac in the form of a cookie, so it's possible that this clearing of the private data is actually the problem. If you are deleting any cookies when you reset *Safari*, you will need to re-enter your username and password next time you visit Gmail or iGoogle, which means that you become aware that you were logged out.

On the other hand, there have been numerous bugs that have caused online services to close sessions prematurely but that's just because these are the most popular browsers. It's really a problem with the server code and not the browser. Normally these bugs will actually log you out in the middle of a session though, not just when you quit the site. I also haven't come across anyone else specifically experiencing this with Google and *Safari* so I'm more inclined to think it is just your own cookies getting deleted.

"How can I bridge the gap for my network?"

Q Our house and studio are separated by a small gap. I have a wireless network set up in the studio with a Time Machine. As the network doesn't reach to the house - and trying to extend with AirPorts does not work - I wanted to set up a repeater fed by the Ethernet from the Time Machine. Is this possible and how do I do it?

Trevor Clapp

A You mean Time Capsule… *Time Machine* is just the software that handles the automatic timed backup in (Snow) Leopard. Your Time Capsule is a networked disk stuck to an AirPort Extreme base station.

So, what you need to do is get your network traffic between house and studio wirelessly. If all you have is the Time Capsule in the studio, it will broadcast a wireless LAN signal and computers that are in range will be able to pick it up. But evidently, not all of them are in range. So you need another device, on the other side of this gap that will receive the wireless signal and retransmit it. This is called Wireless Distribution System, or WDS, and you can do it by adding another Airport Extreme in repeater mode.

Except that it sounds as if you have already tried this and failed. I'm not sure why that might be but using a Time Capsule instead of an AirPort Extreme will not help. ●

On the forum

Help and advice from readers

Q Whenever I open my laptop it downloads my email messages. However, the Mail Activity panel always tells me it is downloading more messages than are actually displayed. The odd thing is I never seem to be missing any. So what information is this panel telling me?

LORIMER Joined: 15 Apr 2004 Posts: 191 Location: Guildford, Surrey, UK

A If you are using IMAP mail (such as .Mac/Mobile Me) then the activity window will also show the number of emails being synchronised in other folders other than your inbox, such as sent mail, drafts, as well as any other folders.

Carriehartford Joined: 10 Apr 2005 Posts: 6472 Location: U.K.

Q Has anyone tried to get Windows 7 on Bootcamp Snow Leopard? Just wondering because the specs say it only supports Windows Vista and XP.

If any one has done this how did you get on with the drivers? Any feedback appreciated.

Aguru Joined: 28 Jul 2009 Posts: 56 Location: Plymouth

A I am running Win'7 64-bit on an older iMac fine (after having to adapt the install disk due to age of iMac).

Most drivers installed from Snow Leopard after installation, and the rest sorted themselves out with automatic updates.

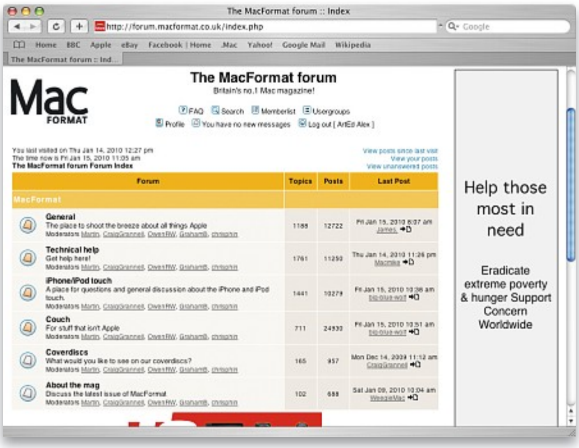
Salamat Joined: 17 Feb 2005 Posts: 493

Q I have two memory sticks and I want to erase the files on them. Can I just drag the files to the Trash and then empty it? Or is there another way to do this. I would like to use these sticks as a backup also like my external disk. Do I have to format them?

Cbbob Joined: 02 Jul 2009 Posts: 101 Location: Los Angeles, CA

A Using the *Disk Utility* you can erase and format the drives all in one operation. To use as a backup, just insert drive and set as target for your backup software.

Bish Joined: 25 Aug 2009 Posts: 12



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THE FUJIFILM FINEPIX REAL 3D W1, REVIEWED ON P87

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Ian Osborne
Reviews Editor

3D was the theme of the recent Consumer Electronics Show (CES), especially regarding TVs. But if 2010 is the year the third dimension comes to mainstream television, what about recording devices? Could the 3D camera be the next big thing?

Fuji certainly thinks so. Its Fujifilm FinePix REAL 3D W1 camera can take both movies and still photographs in 3D, as well as traditional, two-dimensional images. Could the future bring greater convergence between 3D technologies, with cameras offering 3D imaging which can then be reviewed on a 3D television or computer display? Only time will tell, but the next few years will be very interesting for photographers.

Elsewhere, Craig Grannell takes a look at the beta version of Google's *Chrome*, the long-awaited web browser that's taken far too long to make it to the Mac. A great deal of care and attention has been lavished on making it as stable and as Mac-like as possible. It has some way to go before it's finished, but the next few years will prove very interesting for web surfers too.

» OUR LOGOS

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★ A product that receives the MacFormat Choice award is the best in its class when reviewed.

Mac FORMAT Winner! Used in our Group Tests, MacFormat Winner indicates the product that we feel stands out.

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» COMBINED TV AND MONITOR

ASUS 24T1E

£270 Can a sub-£300 display have the best of both worlds?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: ASUS
http://uk.asus.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Screen size: 23.6-inch widescreen **Resolution:** 1920x1080 **Contrast ratio:** 20,000:1 **Colours:** 16.7 million **Response time:** 5ms

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ TV and monitor combined
- ⊕ Good audio quality
- ⊖ Poor text rendering
- ⊖ Lighting not perfectly balanced

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"A decent entertainment centre display, but not a universal solution."

The ASUS 24T1E is a combined television and computer monitor. It gives you full HD 1080p, digital (DVB-T) and analogue (PAL/SECAM) signal support, a seven-day electronic programme guide and 1,000-page Teletext. Around the back there are two HDMI ports and two SCART ports, as well as composite, S-Video and VGA inputs. Annoyingly, there's no DVI support, but you could always get a DVI-to-HDMI lead.

Unlike many dedicated monitors, there's no card reader or USB hub, but these are logical omissions given the demands its TV functionality makes on the I/O-port space.

As would be expected for a sub-£300 monitor/TV, the ASUS 24T1E won't suit a professional designer or video editor. In our single-colour tests, we found the backlight was a little more intense centrally across the screen, leaving darker areas at the top and bottom of the viewing area: nothing that would bother most users, but not pro-quality.

Some might question the tree-like design on the speaker grille.

More worrying is its poor text rendering, with too much pixelation and not enough clarity. So it's not an ideal workhorse either. Yet it makes a very good media-centre monitor. Its colours are beautifully clear and vivid, its gradient ramps smooth, and it does a great job of distinguishing between almost and actual black and white, even at an angle. Its 7W speakers aren't too bad either.

The ASUS 24T1E isn't an ideal computer display, but as a relatively cheap TV and monitor, it's a good deal.

Ian Osborne

» INFRA-RED SECURITY CAMERA

Y-Cam Knight SD

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£175 Keep an eye on intruders with night-vision security

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Y-Cam
www.y-cam.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Networking: Ethernet and wireless **Sensor:** 640x480 CMOS **Other:** MJPEG/MPEG-4 video streaming, microSD slot, email and FTP upload

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Excellent night vision
- ⊕ Email and FTP integration
- ⊕ Well-designed web interface
- ⊖ Low-resolution sensor

VERDICT

★★★★★

"The Knight is a perfect, easy-to-use, standalone security solution."

Cameras like this one include a web server which, when configured, can let you see inside your home from anywhere in the world. But the Y-Cam Knight's big innovation is the price. At under £200 for a motion-sensitive camera with night vision, the Knight puts home security within everyone's reach.

Setup is impressively simple. Just plug the camera into your router and install the included software. You can even omit the last step if you've got control of your router, since the external software's only job is detecting connected cameras on your network. Everything important is included on the camera itself, and after giving it your wireless credentials, it's off, functioning as a completely separate unit with no host computer required. The software on the unit is as good as we've seen, with a well-designed web-browser layout and a host of alert functionality, from email to FTP upload, and microSD integration for offline backup if needed.

Y-cam
RESET
POWER

The Y-Cam Knight ticks all the right boxes for your peace of mind.

The camera's picture is top quality, if not ultra hi-res. Its 640x480 sensor is especially impressive when combined with the ring of infrared LEDs that surrounds it. While the colour definition in daylight isn't great, the clarity of the night-vision pictures is utterly fantastic. You can even combine alternating frames into a single image, cutting the frame rate but increasing the brightness of dark images. Tuck this in a corner, set up email alerts on your iPhone, and you've got a 24/7 home security solution, wherever you are.

Alex Cox

The diminutive projector - with a footprint less than 15cm each side - should last for years, thanks to its use of an LED light source.
Photography by Joby Sessions

» PORTABLE PROJECTOR

Samsung SP-P410M

£493 Here's a bright idea – switch expensive, short-lived bulbs for efficient LEDs

This projector from Samsung isn't just small (its footprint is smaller than a Mac mini), the light source isn't even a traditional bulb – it's superbright LEDs.

That means an end to long warm-up times and a projected LED life of more than 30,000 hours. Traditional projectors' bulbs might last anywhere from a couple of hundred to a couple of thousand hours of use before burning out, and they're expensive things to replace; you could expect to shell out anything from £100 to £400 for just a single bulb.

A projected life of 30,000 hours is obviously something we couldn't verify; it equates to almost three and a half years of round-the-clock use. That's big news, and might have you looking at that 500 quid price tag a little more kindly.

And the size is most impressive. Though the external power brick adds about a third of the projector's volume in bulk, the whole thing comes in a small black satchel that is eminently portable. It's not as small as the new wave of pico projectors, but what you lose in pocketability, you gain in brightness and quality.

At 170 lumens, it's more than bright enough for use even with some overhead lighting still on, and while the SVGA resolution (800x600) is pedestrian, it's fine for business and education use. The projected image – anything from 20 to 80 inches, depending on the throw distance (69cm to 2.8m) – is excellent. We'd like it to be brighter, and the DLP technology can cause irritating RGB ghosting as you shift your gaze, but it demonstrates little of the hideous colour bleaching of some projectors.

> *"It's not as small as a pico projector, but what you lose in pocketability, you gain in quality"*

It accepts only VGA input plus composite video, and, annoyingly, the audio input for the respectable 1W speakers is the red/white phono type rather than a 3.5mm jack, but there are compensations. There's a tripod thread on the underside, and a USB port lets you plug in a flash drive loaded with media and control their playback with the included remote. JPEGs work fine, though we struggled to find compatible movie formats.

Christopher Phin

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Samsung
www.samsung.com/uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Resolution: 800x600 pixels
Brightness: 170 ANSI lumens
Contrast ratio: 1000:1 **Inputs:** VGA, composite video, stereo phono, USB **Other:** Tripod mounting thread

PROS & CONS

⊕ Long-lasting LED light
⊕ USB port
⊖ Could be brighter/higher-res
⊖ Poor selection/quality of inputs

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A well-made portable projector for education or business use."

>> MULTI-FORMAT DIGITAL RADIO WITH iPOD DOCK

Revo DOMINO D3

£170 A compact and stylish radio, but can it match the iBLIK?

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Revo Technologies
www.revo.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Radio formats: DAB, DAB+, FM with RDS, internet **Presets:** Ten stations per mode **Display:** OLED

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Stylish
- ⊕ Easy to set up and use
- ⊖ No earphone socket
- ⊖ No AM radio

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"An elegantly designed radio, but we prefer the iBLIK RadioStation."

Available in black or white, Revo's DOMINO D3 multi-format radio features a rubberised matt finish giving it a curious retro-yet-contemporary style. It looks cool enough to sit comfortably next to your computer, but doesn't look out of place in a more traditional living space.

Connecting wirelessly to the internet gives you access to over 11,000 streaming broadcasts. You can also stream music from your Mac or from Last.fm, but curiously, not Spotify. The device comes with a 30-day subscription to Last.fm, after which the service costs £3 a month. Terrestrial digital radio through DAB and DAB+ is also catered for, as is FM radio, via Radio Data System (RDS), whereby the DOMINO can display small snippets of information digitally embedded into FM broadcasts, such as station identification, programme information and more. There's an iPod dock too.

Compared to the iBLIK RadioStation (reviewed in issue 206), the DOMINO D3 lacks Ethernet connectivity, an earphone socket and ports for connecting external speakers. However, it does benefit from an OLED screen (albeit a small one), a better remote controller, Last.fm and full iPhone compatibility (no need for Airplane Mode), but the RadioStation offers a warmer, more complete sound. For us, this tips the balance in the older machine's favour – unless you're keen on Last.fm.

Also available are the DAB and FM-only DOMINO D1, and the DOMINO D2, which offers WiFi internet and FM radios. All DOMINO models include iPod docks. **Ian Osborne**

The Revo DOMINO D3 comes with a black or white bevelled finish.

>> WIRELESS HEADPHONES

Sennheiser PX 210 BT

£150 You don't realise how much a cable hinders until it's gone

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Sennheiser
www.sennheiser.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Freq response: 15-22,000Hz **Bluetooth support:** 2.1 + EDR, A2DP, AVRCP

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Clean audio from iPhone
- ⊕ Convenient and simple
- ⊖ iPhone's AVRCP limitations
- ⊖ Audio from Mac compressed

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"These headphones are a revelation, especially for iPhone owners."

We've seen Bluetooth audio stuff before, but nothing that works as well, sounds as good, or makes us slap our credit card down with quite as much enthusiasm as this set of 'phones from Sennheiser.

They use the A2DP protocol to deliver proper stereo sound. We tested them with an iPhone 3GS and a Bluetooth-equipped MacBook Pro running Mac OS X 10.6, and they paired and worked without a hitch, devoid of even a single dongle. (They should work with the iPhone 3G or second-generation iPod touch too, so long as they're on iPhone OS 3.0; older/other models won't work without a dongle such as Sennheiser's BTD 300i.)

We were astonished to find that audio streamed from the iPhone was clean and free from interference or noticeable compression. Seriously: it sounds good, and this is unusual with Bluetooth audio devices. Results from the MacBook Pro were less pleasing, with some compression artefacts especially noticeable in vocals.

Unlike the iPhone, however, the controls mounted on the right cup can skip tracks forward and back on the Mac. The iPhone's as-yet incomplete implementation of the AVRCP protocol means only the volume controls on the headphones work here.

They're light and comfortable, even when worn with glasses. The drivers produce good sound; restrained for some, perhaps, but very pleasant.

Connect with a cable to save battery life; the latter offers between nine and 10 hours' playback. The removable battery pack charges via micro-USB. **Christopher Phin**

Apart from the price, Sennheiser's Bluetooth cans really hit the spot.

TWIN CCD
10.0
MEGA PIXELS
3x
FUJIFILM

The REAL 3D W1 might not have the looks, but it sure has the technology tucked away inside.
Photography by Joby Sessions

>>3D CAMERA

Fujifilm FinePix REAL 3D W1

£430 The world's first 3D digital camera features two lenses and two 10MP sensors

With its bulbous styling and bulky 12.4x6.8x2.6cm dimensions, the Fujifilm FinePix REAL 3D W1 certainly isn't the prettiest of compact cameras. But as it's the first camera of its kind we can forgive it for not being small and chic, and its aluminium frame certainly is sturdy.

The W1 lets you shoot 3D images and view them on its 2.8-inch LCD, without the need for 3D glasses. To create the 3D images, the camera uses Fujifilm's 'Real 3D Lens System'. This layers together two images to create the 3D effect, so the camera is equipped with two 10-megapixel sensors and two Fujinon lenses.

The 3D images the camera captures are incredibly impressive, but you have to get your viewing angle correct to take full advantage. When using the 3D two-shot function, the W1 saves the two images as one 3D picture so you can edit it, which we found most useful with macro shots where the effect can be overwhelming. 3D images are mostly a point-and-shoot affair.

There are Parallax Control buttons on the back to adjust images before or after shooting, though the automatic control is very good too. There's an Individual Shutter mode, which combines two shots taken at the same time, and an Interval Shooting mode which uses two shots from the left-hand lens from different viewpoints while on a moving vehicle such as a car or a train, so you can get 3D images of long-distance views.

> *"The W1 camera is equipped with two 10-megapixel sensors and two Fujinon lenses"*

The camera takes 2D images too, and makes good use of the dual lenses. Advanced 2D Mode lets you take two different shots simultaneously, and with Tele+Wide Shooting, it's possible to take a close-up or wider picture by changing the lens settings. Colour mode lets you take the same scene with different colour, as well as mono, settings.

Like most modern compacts, the W1 takes 2D movies, and being a 3D camera, goes one better and does them in 3D too. An 8-inch 3D picture viewer and 3D printing service are available separately.

Rachael D'Cruze

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Fujifilm
www.fujifilm.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Resolution: 10 megapixels **Shooting modes:** 2D and 3D images, 2D and 3D movies **Lens:** Fujinon 3x optical zoom **ISO:** Up to 1600 **Viewfinder:** 2.8-inch LCD

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Exciting new technology
- ⊕ 3D images without the glasses
- ⊖ Expensive for a compact
- ⊖ Prints only from Fujifilm

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"It's not cheap for a compact, but it isn't a gimmick. It works!"

>> UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY

APC BackUPS BE700G

£87 A cost-effective defence against blackouts and power spikes

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: APC Corporation
www.apc.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Output voltage: 230v **Power Output:** 405w **Battery:** lead acid **Run time:** up to 3.9mins at full load **Dimensions:** 8.6x23x28.5cm **Weight:** 6.8kg

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Protects against power cuts
- ⊕ UPS and surge-protected pockets
- ⊕ Cost-effective
- ⊖ Not great looking

VERDICT

★★★★½

"An excellent device that could save your work, or even your Mac."

Protecting your Mac setup with a UPS (uninterruptible power supply) is always a good idea, especially if you live in an area that's prone to power cuts or outages. If your mains electricity supply cuts out, the UPS takes over and powers your equipment from its internal battery.

The BackUPS BE700G from APC gives you eight surge-protected power sockets, four of which are covered by the battery backup. That's enough UPS sockets for your Mac, monitor and essential peripherals like an external hard drive or router. All eight sockets take standard three-pin plugs, which is much more convenient than the kettle leads favoured by some UPS systems. A neat power-saving feature defines one of the UPS-enabled sockets as the master outlet, and three non-UPS ports as controlled outlets. When the device plugged into the master outlet is switched off, the controlled outlets power down. This feature is optional, and is switched off by default.

When drawing its full 700VA load, the BE700G gives you just under four minutes of battery time. In our tests, it powered two iMacs with one playing a digital video in *QuickTime* and the other web surfing for more than 20 minutes, which is commendable. You can, of course, opt to have your Mac shut itself down in an orderly fashion before it drains the battery completely. Software is supplied, but you could use OS X's native UPS support.

The versatility offered by three-pin sockets, coupled with its fair price, make the APC BackUPS BE700G ideal for the home user.

Ian Osborne

APC
Back-UPS ES 700

The APC BackUPS BE700G offers eight outlets, four of which are on the UPS.

>> MEDIA PLAYER

Netgear Digital Entertainer Live

£120 Frees your videos, but doesn't enjoy talking to your Mac

CONTACTS

Manufacturer: Netgear
www.netgear.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Video interfaces: HDMI, Composite **Connectivity:** Ethernet, USB (WiFi adaptor sold separately) **Formats:** WMV, VC1/6, xVid, DivX, MP4, MOV, MPEG2, DVD VOB, FLV, Matroska, ASF

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Strong format support
- ⊖ Slow, clunky interface
- ⊖ Poor Mac support
- ⊖ No HDMI cable supplied

VERDICT

★★☆☆☆

"Poor performance and Mac support make it hard to recommend."

Like most media streamers, the first annoyance with Netgear's offering is the supplied cabling. Just a pathetic composite lead comes in the box, leaving you to provide your own HDMI. You also need to hook it up via Ethernet or shell out yet more money for a wireless adaptor.

Worst of all, the Digital Entertainer Live expects you're going to be using a PC. This isn't just a question of setting up your system for streaming existing files. Its PlayOn component, offering access to online TV channels, is only designed for Windows and Microsoft Media Player. Even working, it's a clumsy feature that requires a separate subscription fee.

Up and running, the Netgear doesn't impress after last month's WD Live. The controls and interface are sluggish, with the various screens offering few options regardless of whether you're browsing system menus or your content archives. The YouTube browser is particularly painful, only listing four videos at once on our 32-inch TV, and making stepping through them agonisingly slow.

Most importantly though, even hooked up via HDMI, the actual video quality was dreadful compared to our trusty PS3, with grey letterboxing and footage that looked as if it was being streamed via a web browser in the mid-90s, not over a powerline connection to a HDTV. As far as files go, if you've got it, chances are good that the Netgear can play it. But it's all for nothing if you can't be sure it'll come out looking as good as it should.

Richard Cobbett

NETGEAR
NETGEAR
Digital Entertainer Live
NETGEAR

Small, perhaps too small - and lacking the horsepower to impress.

Words by Ian Osborne
Photography by Joe Branston

>> SHOULDER BAG

Exspect MiBag

£22 www.exspect.co.uk

01 Designed to carry a 17-inch laptop (a 13-inch model is also available), the MiBag is packed with pockets. If you prefer something smaller, you can lift out the padded middle section and use it as a standalone shoulder bag. Both the inner bag and the outer bag offer pockets with headphone slots to listen to your iPod without taking it out. The outer bag even has interchangeable fascias (sold separately), available in different colours.

MiBag's build quality isn't as good as some of the more expensive bags and it's a little bulky, but at only £22 from Amazon, it's a bargain.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A versatile, multifaceted bag that's packed with features and extremely affordable.

>> LAPTOP RUCKSACK

Knomo Austin

£100 www.knomobags.com

02 Built for 15-inch MacBook Pros, Knomo's Austin rucksack is made from durable coated canvas with leather trim. It's heavy on the padding, so should do a great job of protecting your valuable notebook, and is replete with extra pockets for your accessories and personal effects. It comes with a unique tracking number too, which may help you get it back if you lose it.

The Austin feels comfortable on your back, but aesthetically, it's a little over-formal for a rucksack. Its coated-canvas finish ensures weatherproofing, but at £100 (Apple online store), you're paying for its looks.

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"A backpack with a high build quality designed to bring out the metrosexual in you."

>> BAMBOO CASE

Skydda Design BambooBook

£96 www.skyddadesign.com

03 Hardwood meets hi-tech in this beautiful hard-shell notebook case. Designed for use with the 13-inch MacBook Pro, BambooBook features a comfortable rubberised handle, brushed metal fixtures to match your aluminium MacBook and a cushioned interior for maximum protection. There's also a zip-on cover to protect its finish, replete with accessory pockets. The bamboo case looks gorgeous, though won't appeal to all.

BambooBook is currently only available directly from Skydda Design. The price offered here includes shipping from the USA, based on latest exchange rates.

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"An attractive bamboo case, but the zip-over cover looks a little cheap."

>> SHOULDER BAG

be.ez LE Rush 13

£38 www.be-ez.com

04 Built to fit the 13-inch MacBook and MacBook Pro, be.ez's LE Rush is an excellent blend of form and function. Its briefcase design is augmented by an adjustable shoulder strap, with sturdy swivel clasps ensuring it sits comfortably while in use. It fits the notebook snugly, but there's not room for much else. You can slip your power adaptor in the front pocket, and there's some extra pockets inside and on the case's rear, but that's about it.

We reviewed the Lagoon Dream model, combining a steel grey exterior with turquoise lining, but black and green versions are also available.

VERDICT

★★★★½

"A great combination of strength and style, but not much room for peripherals."

01
02
03
04
ICY DOCK

>> DIGITAL MIXER

Lecci Mini Mixer MP3 Mixing Deck

£13 www.bluwgroup.com

01 This two-channel mixer lets you crossfade between two audio sources. Any device that uses a 3.5mm headphone jack is compatible, which includes iPods and iPhones. It's powered by four AAA batteries, and has a headphone jack so you can preview the next track before mixing to it and a socket for connecting external speakers.

A device of this price is never going to be pro-quality. Its build quality is average, and it can't be powered from the mains, but it scores for portability.

Ian Osborne

VERDICT

★★½☆☆

"It won't kickstart your DJ-ing career, but it's good fun."

>> HDD ENCLOSURE

Icy Dock 2.5" External Enclosure

£17 www.icydock.com

02 Turn any SATA 2.5-inch hard drive into a portable drive with this enclosure. The device is screwless, though as you need a pocket-sized tool (supplied) to install and eject the drive, this is of limited advantage. If you need to swap drives regularly, this isn't the caddy for you, but it does a fair job as a portable drive.

It offers a built-in USB cable, which is welcome, but short in length. There's also a USB port, so you can use a separate cable if necessary. Included in the reasonable price is a carry case.

Ian Osborne

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"Good value for money, but it's a pity a tool is required."

>> EARBUDS

Custom Tuned Earphones for iPhone

£49 www.radiopaqproducts.com

03 These iPhone earphone replacements do a lot of things right. For a start, the cables are tangle-free, and they have a good in-line mic and a button to accept/decline calls and pause/play/skip tracks in iPod mode. Four versions are offered, custom-tuned for Rock, Jazz, Pop and Classical music. Sadly, the buds themselves struggled to stay in our ears and there's no in-line volume control either. Also, we found the best sound to be down to personal taste rather than the type of music being played.

Graham Barlow

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"It's a good idea, but there's room for improvement."

>> DISPLAY STAND

Just Mobile Mtable Stand

£59 www.just-mobile.com

04 This aluminium stand is designed to sit under your display or iMac. If you use your notebook as a desktop machine by connecting it to a monitor, Mtable offers a place to house it. Or, give yourself extra desk room by sliding your keyboard under the Mtable.

Mtable's brushed aluminium finish looks superb next to your MacBook Pro, and it fits any model up to 15 inches. It's well vented for airflow and robust enough to take the weight. It's not cheap, but it's a great way of organising your desk space.

Ian Osborne

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"Expensive, but the quality is high, and it looks great."

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>>PASSWORD AND IDENTITY MANAGER

Agile Web Solutions 1Password 3.0.2

$40 (£25) Keep important information secure and safe from prying eyes

CONTACTS

Developer: Agile Web Solutions
www.agilewebsolutions.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.5 **Browsers:** Safari, Camino, Mozilla Firefox, OmniWeb, DEVONagent, NetNewsWire, WebKit, Fluid or iCab (Google Chrome support imminent)

PROS & CONS

⊕ Strong browser integration
⊕ Support for app registrations
⊕ Usable and quite intuitive
⊕ Saves time and reduces worry

VERDICT

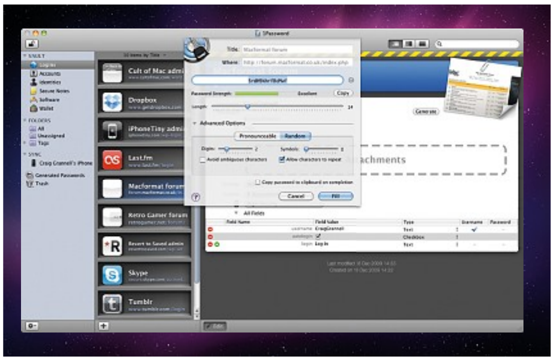
★★★★½

"You get what you pay for: an unbeatable solution for securing digital data."

Every day, you juggle more passwords: app registration codes, banking details, logins for online services. *1Password* acts as a secure repository for them all, justifying its price by being more versatile and usable than your *Keychain Access*.

1Password is essentially a secure vault. You begin by defining a master password, which you mustn't forget, since you can't retrieve it. With the vault open, *1Password* resembles an *iLife* app crossed with *Delicious Library*: a sidebar houses categories, a second column provides 'shelves' with items, and the largest pane enables you to edit details. (Leave your Mac for a user-definable period of time and the vault automatically locks.)

Items can be added manually by selecting a sidebar item and keying in data. However, you can speed things along: just drag an app selection from *Finder* to set up dozens of software records, or use *1Password*'s browser integration to grab website login details. You can add tags to assist with searches and attachments (such as receipts) to records, and generate stronger passwords. In browsers, *1Password*'s menu can be used to fill forms with card and identity details too.



1Password can be used to generate more secure passwords.

At first, *1Password* seems extravagant, but, in use, its ability to save time and reduce worry becomes clear. As an app for storing website logins and app registration details alone, it'd be worth a punt; but add security for notes, identities and banking items – plus loads of polish – and you've got a winner.

Craig Grannell

>>OPEN-SOURCE EMAIL CLIENT

Mozilla Thunderbird 3.0

£Free An open-source alternative to Mail that gives with one hand and takes away with the other

CONTACTS

Developer: Mozilla
www.mozilla.org

REQUIREMENTS

Processor: Intel x86 or PowerPC G3, G4 or G5 processor **RAM:** 256MB (512MB or greater recommended) **OS:** OS X 10.4.x or later **HD:** 200MB

PROS & CONS

⊕ Can be used from a USB stick
⊕ Neat features like timelines
⊖ Poor performance
⊖ Lacks many features of Mail

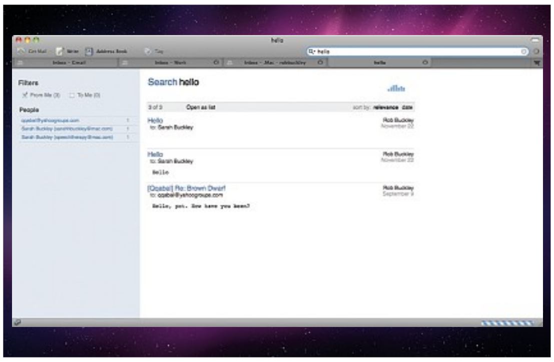
VERDICT

★★★½☆

"A few excellent features for power users, but slower than version 2."

As a Mac owner, chances are you use OS X's *Mail* application to get your emails. But just as the open-source *Firefox* has features that can tempt you away from *Safari*, so the latest version of its cousin, *Thunderbird*, might tempt a *Mail* user.

Version 3 has a new interface, with the same brushed-metal look and support for tabbed windows that *Firefox* has. These tabs can display not just email messages, but folders, searches and even web pages. An archiving function helps to declutter your inbox, while an improved search function lets you find email messages easily. There are now smart mailbox features to unite your inboxes, and improved Gmail support, so Gmail's special folders are understood correctly. *Address Book* handling is also improved so Snow Leopard's contacts can be used, and Spotlight can now search messages.



As well as a new interface, Thunderbird 3 has improved search .

While it offers advanced features that enable greater fine-tuning of settings than *Mail*, *Thunderbird*'s biggest selling point is its expandability. It supports hundreds of extensions including calendars, anti-spam, themes and encryption. *Thunderbird* can also run off a USB stick.

Compared to version 2, *Thunderbird 3* is slower and a little uglier. It also lacks many of *Mail*'s features, including MobileMe, iPhone account-syncing and *Exchange* support. But it is a good alternative for power and mobile users looking for a wider range of possibilities.

Rob Buckley

>> SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Realmac Software Socialite

Get started with the demo of Socialite: see our tutorial on p58!

£13 Stuff all your social networks into a single app – and prepare for a communication deluge

The uncomfortable truth about social networking is that it can take a huge amount of work to keep on top of the flood of news that it creates. *Socialite* (previously known as *EventBox* before its acquisition by Realmac Software) lets you add a bunch of services, and view/interact with them in one place rather than having to visit different sites or use a slew of single-function apps. It supports Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, Digg and both straight RSS feeds and synchronisation with the Google Reader RSS service.

Perhaps the most significant enhancement made to *EventBox* by the Realmac Software team is the support for multiple accounts. It's now easy to add, say, a work and a professional Twitter identity, and post from either. However, the program doesn't allow *TweetDeck*-like abilities to post to multiple accounts plus Facebook all at once.

Just as important for Twitter addicts is the support both for Lists (which make it easier to stream your tweets in a more manageable way) and for the new Retweet feature. The Facebook accounts are limited to status updates and photos – a blessing frankly; we're spared *FarmVille* notifications – though you can also read and write comments on status updates. For photos uploaded by your friends through both Facebook and Flickr, you can click an icon to view larger versions in a pop-up window right within *Socialite*.

Indeed, though the interface looks spare, you can actually do a lot with each entry. A cluster of icons beside each Event lets you perform various actions on it, depending on what kind of entry it is. Favourite it, reply to it, add it to *Instapaper*, tweet it with one of your Twitter accounts, and more. Useful touches abound, though it might take you a while to find them. Shortened URLs can be expanded automatically, which is great for scanning your feeds; seeing the real URL can be a good indication as to whether you want to bother loading it. It also supports authentication for a bunch of shortening services, so you can track who clicks on links that you shorten. We love the keyboard shortcuts that let you quickly flick through your Events and enable you to load links up in a browser in the background for later viewing.

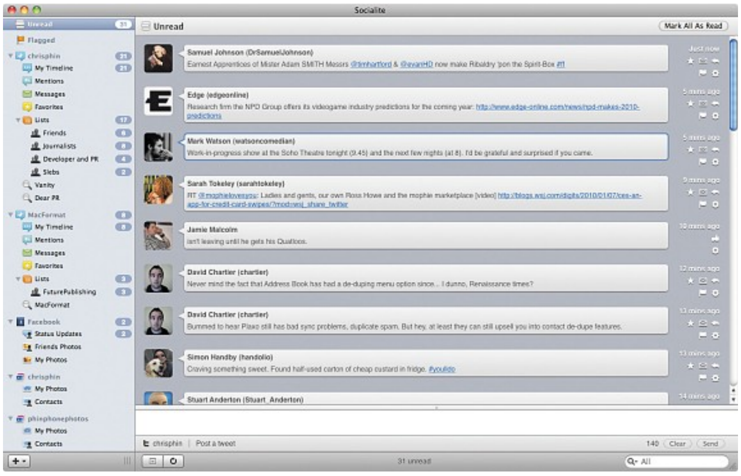
Having everything in one app is undoubtedly convenient, but there are some fundamental problems. The biggest is duplication; if you follow the same person with more than one account on Twitter – and, worse, if they push all their tweets to Facebook – you'll see the same update multiple times. Similarly, you may find yourself seeing a story become popular on Digg an hour after reading it in your RSS feed.

Although you can choose to filter down to one particular stream, it's still true that there's a huge torrent of news rushing down at you if you add a bunch of services. (We stopped using it as a Google Reader client, for example; too much stuff, and a different mentality.)

As well as these problems, there are other omissions – you can't really post between one Twitter account and another, you can't comment on Digg stories, and some features, such as the ability to upload photos, are hard to find. But despite the niggles, *Socialite* is a competent, useful app.

Christopher Phin

> *"It supports Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, Digg and both straight RSS feeds and synchronisation with the Google Reader RSS service"*



Samuel Johnson (DrSamuelJohnson)
Earnest Apprentices of Mister Adam SMITH Messrs @timharford & @evanHD now make Ribaldry 'pon the Spirit-Box #1

Edge (edgeonline)
Research firm the NPD Group offers its videogame industry predictions for the coming year: http://www.edge-online.com/news/npd-makes-2010-predictions

Mark Watson (watsoncomedian)
Work-in-progress show at the Soho Theatre tonight (9.45) and the next few nights (at 8). I'd be grateful and surprised if you came.

Sarah Tokeley (sarahtokeley)
RT @mophielovesyou: Ladies and gents, our own Ross Howe and the mophie marketplace [video] http://blogs.wsj.com/digits/2010/01/07/ces-an-app-for-credit-card-swipes/?mod=wsj_share_twitter

Jamie Malcolm
isn't leaving until he gets his Qualloos.

David Chartier (chartier)
Never mind the fact that Address Book has had a de-duping menu option since... I dunno, Renaissance times?

David Chartier (chartier)
Bummed to hear Plaxo still has bad sync problems, duplicate spam. But hey, at least they can still upsell you into contact de-dupe features.

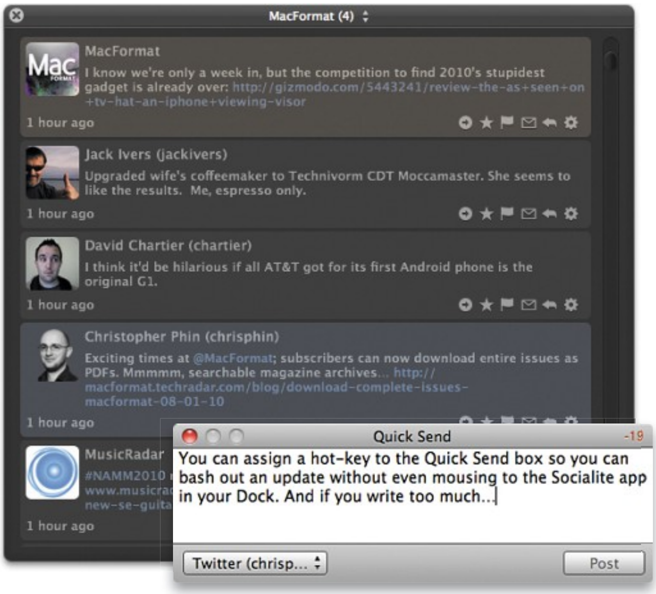
Simon Handby (handollo)
Craving something sweet. Found half-used carton of cheap custard in fridge. #youfdo

Stuart Anderton (Stuart_Anderton)

chrisphin | Post a tweet

Events from your various networks get a different visual style to differentiate them.

You can optionally use a floating HUD to see your incoming events, or a hot-keyed Quick Send dialog.



MacFormat
I know we're only a week in, but the competition to find 2010's stupidest gadget is already over: http://gizmodo.com/5443241/review-the-as+seen+on+tv-hat-an-iphone+viewing-visor

Jack Ivers (jackivers)
Upgraded wife's coffeemaker to Technivorm CDT Moccamaster. She seems to like the results. Me, espresso only.

David Chartier (chartier)
I think it'd be hilarious if all AT&T got for its first Android phone is the original G1.

Christopher Phin (chrisphin)
Exciting times at @MacFormat; subscribers can now download entire issues as PDFs. Mmmmm, searchable magazine archives... http://macformat.techradar.com/blog/download-complete-issues-macformat-08-01-10

MusicRadar
#NAMM2010
www.musicra
new-se-guita

You can assign a hot-key to the Quick Send box so you can bash out an update without even mousing to the Socialite app in your Dock. And if you write too much...

CONTACTS

Developer: Realmac Software

www.realmacsoftware.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.5 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Ergonomic and convenient
- ⊕ Excellent usability features
- ⊕ Support for popular services
- ⊖ Duplication can be an issue
- ⊖ Some service-specific omissions
- ⊖ Certain features are obscured

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"Despite some issues, if you use more than one of the services Socialite supports, it's worth a buy."

>> SYNCING SOFTWARE FOR COMPUTERS AND DEVICES

Eltima Software SyncMate 2.5

Free/£27 When you absolutely need to synchronise your Mac with everything, everywhere

CONTACTS

Developer: Eltima Software
http://mac.eltima.com/sync-mac.html

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.4 or later

PROS & CONS

- + Easy to use yet powerful
- + Works with many devices
- + Can sync computers and Google
- − Synchronisation unreliable

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"SyncMate does a good job of synchronisation but isn't 100% reliable."

Having access to your important data on all your computers and devices is becoming increasingly important to pretty much everyone. *SyncMate 2.5* comes in both free and expert editions, and offers data synchronisation with a range of devices and services, including Macs, PCs, Windows Mobile or Nokia S40 phones, Google (including 'Android' phones), Sony PSPs and USB flash drives.

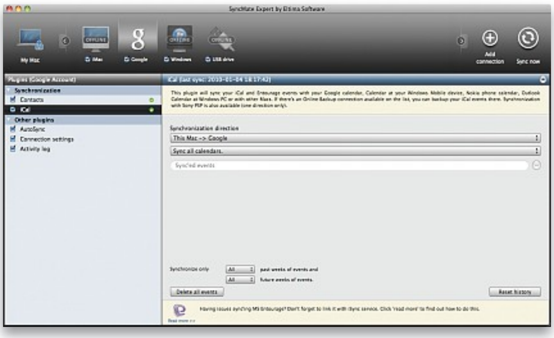
The free edition will sync only contact and calendar information, as well as certain system preferences and SMS messages from supported phones. The expert edition also syncs *iPhoto*, *iTunes*, *Safari*, *Firefox*, folders and *Mail* messages. Both editions also offer online storage for storing data and settings.

To use it, you launch the application, tell it what kind of connections you'd like to set up and then decide whether to merge or overwrite data. If you want to sync with a Mac, install *SyncMate* on it. With a PC, install the *SyncMate* Windows module.

Although the interface is aesthetically challenged and typo-ridden, it's still quite usable. But while the program does a good job of synchronising most data, we found there were some glitches. Times and dates on some Google Calendar events would show up incorrectly, for example.

Anything less than 100% reliable syncs makes such software potentially dangerous, so we wouldn't recommend using *SyncMate* without making backups and experimenting first to see if it works with your setup. If so, it has the potential to be a premier tool for synchronisation.

Rob Buckley



SyncMate can sync data between a whole raft of apps and devices.

>> WEB-CODING APPLICATION

MacRabbit Espresso 1.1

€60 (£55) Another coding app enters the fray, but can it best Coda, TextMate and BBEdit?

CONTACTS

Developer: MacRabbit
www.macrabbit.com/espresso

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later

PROS & CONS

- + Impressive, fast text editor
- + CSS live preview
- − Currently overpriced
- − No local server support

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"Shows lots of potential, but still second-best in quite a few areas."

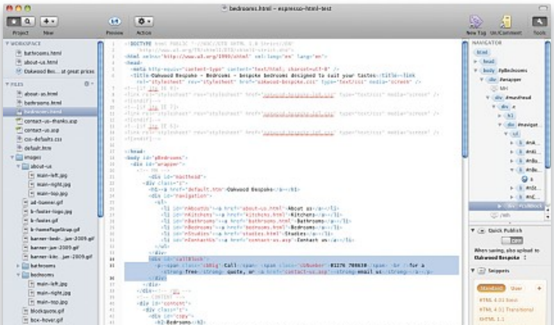
Espresso is for web designers who favour hand-coding. You define projects, set publish settings, and select files from the sidebar to open and edit in the work area. Items can then be dragged to any window's workspace.

Espresso's responsive text editor shines. It lacks the shortcuts flexibility of *TextMate* and *BBEdit* but nonetheless enables rapid coding: formatting and selection tag-wrapping options are solid; code-folding and the navigator enable-code sections can be collapsed and selected; and page-specific and project-wide text-find tools work nicely.

Elsewhere, *Espresso* is less consistent. The interface is sleek, but sometimes feels a little confusing. Previewing is hit and miss: *CSSEdit*-style CSS overrides are included (to see how local CSS edits affect a live site) and, unlike *Coda*, previews can live in separate windows; but local servers aren't supported, restricting web page previews to flat HTML sites. Publishing is better, and offers a Quick Publish switch, to save and upload changes simultaneously.

Overall, *Espresso* is a good app, but its workflow and interface is inferior to *Coda*'s, and *TextMate* and *BBEdit* are better text editors. Consequently, *Espresso* currently feels a little overpriced and feature-light. With local server support and some interface refinement, it would appeal more to pros. As it stands, we suggest sticking with MacRabbit's other app, *CSSEdit*, for CSS work, and *TextMate*, *BBEdit* or *Coda* for everything else.

Craig Grannell



Version 1.1 of Espresso brings much-needed improvements.

>> 3D-RENDERING SOFTWARE

Cheetah3D 5.1

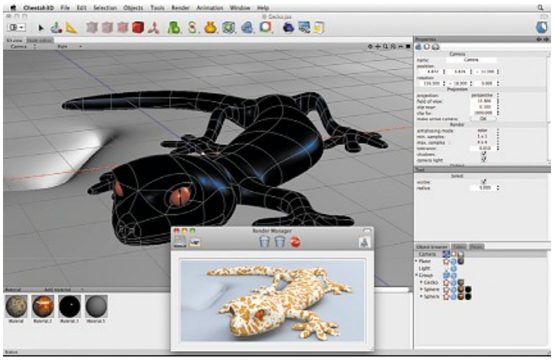
$149 (£92) A great starter 3D application, but with enough power to cope as your skills develop

For anyone wanting to learn the art and craft of 3D modelling and animation, there are few better starting points than *Cheetah3D*. Developed exclusively for Mac OS X, it features a friendly if prosaic user interface, which conceals some powerful tools.

The toolset enables you to model, texture, pose, animate and render your models, from characters to environments. It also has decent import capabilities if you use other 3D packages, with 3DS, LWO and OBJ among the industry-standard formats it supports. New tools since version 4 include a revamped materials system, which enables you to define surface properties directly. The system's node editor lets you get right under the skin of a material.

Rendering is perhaps the area that's received the most attention, though: it's up to ten times faster than in previous releases, thanks to finely tuned hyper-threading and multi-core support. However, there's no marquee render to enable you to preview one section of your scene.

Cheetah3D still lacks features you would get in flagship 3D packages such as *Cinema 4D* or *modo*. But the most obvious absences are addressed with each passing update, and *Cheetah3D* is a fraction of the price. The powerful render system means that professional 3D artists should consider it. The animation system is more limited, but accessible for newcomers. If you find the open-source *Blender* too confusing, try this instead. **Richard Hill**



Cheetah 3D 5.1 has all the basic tools you need, and renders fast.

CONTACTS

Developer: Dr Wengenmayer
www.cheetah3d.com

REQUIREMENTS

Processor: PowerPC G4/G5 or Intel
RAM: 1GB **OS:** Mac OS X 10.4 or later

PROS & CONS

- + Well-rounded tool set
- + Accessible interface
- + Impressive render speeds
- − Limited animation tools
- − No marquee render

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A perfect introduction to 3D graphics, and a serious tool for creating images."

>> WEB BROWSER

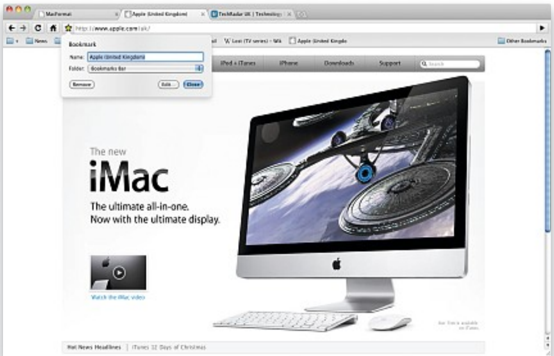
Google Chrome 4.0 (beta)

Free Google's much-hyped browser finally reaches the Mac – but can it best Safari?

Google's dominance of the internet is worryingly reminiscent of Microsoft's command of the desktop market, and with *Chrome* being a big component of the Chrome operating system, it's clear this app is more than just a browser. However, if 2012 sees us with Google chips implanted in our skulls, things won't be so bad as long as the company takes the same level of care as it has with *Chrome* for Mac.

Google claims the browser's been built from the ground up, which explains why it's taken so long to arrive. There's still the occasional iffy design decision – tabs have close boxes at the right and become small and fiddly when many are open, for example, and the toolbar drag area above the tabs is too small. Elsewhere, though, it's clear this isn't a lazy *Firefox*-style port – Chrome utilises Mac OS X's *Dictionary* and *Keychain*; it also offers subtle Mac-like animations when opening tabs and panels.

The browser's fast, sleek and stable (in part due to each tab being an individual process – if one crashes, the others don't), almost making *Safari* feel cluttered and fussy by comparison. However, *Chrome*'s also unfinished – this beta lacks extensions support, bookmarks and cookies management, as well as inline PDF display and a standalone app mode. There's also no session restoration, although you can at least reopen closed tabs from the current session. Gripes aside, it's clear Google might have the Mac's leading browser – once it's finished. **Craig Grannell**



Fiddly toolbar aside, Chrome's already a worthy Mac browser.

CONTACTS

Developer: Google
www.google.com/chrome

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.5 or later
CPU: Intel Mac

PROS & CONS

- + Slick and fast
- + Excellent address bar
- − Incomplete feature set
- − Fiddly toolbar and tabs

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"A fast, stable and usable Mac browser, despite still lacking major features."

>> PHOTO EFFECTS TOOL

PhotoStyler 2.2

$30 (£19) Bring new life to your photos with this powerful effects suite

>> ON THE DISC
You can find all these program's on the disc.

CONTACTS

Developer: Corner-A
http://photostyler.corner-a.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.5+

PROS & CONS

- + Excellent effects
- + Editable effects chains
- − Awkward interface
- − Effects not updated in real time

VERDICT

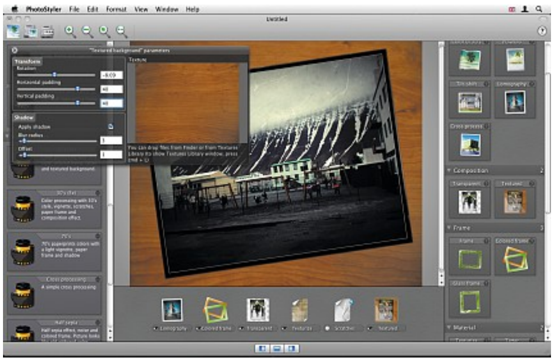
★★★½☆

"Slightly pricey and at times awkward, but produces great results."

Many photo enhancement apps exist for the iPhone, but relatively few similar standalone pieces of software do for the Mac. However, things are changing. Last month we reviewed the impressive *CameraBag*; that app was elegant, but it felt restrictive in use. By comparison, *PhotoStyler* almost offers the opposite experience: there's plenty of functionality, but everything's wrapped up in an awkward interface.

First impressions weren't great – *PhotoStyler*'s 'drop photo here to process' work area resolutely ignored drags from *Finder* and *iPhoto*, but on loading photos directly, the app's power soon became clear. Panels provide access to presets, effects and the effects chain. Effects within the chain can be rearranged by drag and drop, and effects parameters are accessed by a double-click. User-defined chains can be saved as templates.

PhotoStyler's pre-defined templates and individual effects are almost universally impressive; the only drawback is in effects updates not being done in real time – making changes can be time-consuming and a stop-start process. The general interface also feels awkward and not terribly Mac-like. The toolbar buttons aren't obvious, and standard zoom keyboard shortcuts are omitted.



If only PhotoStyler's great effects were matched by a great interface.

PhotoStyler falls a little short of being a must-have app for amateur photo enthusiasts. But if you can deal with its interface, there's plenty of power under *PhotoStyler*'s hood.
Craig Grannell

>> BOOKMARKS STORAGE

Quiet Read

Free Save web pages for later

CONTACTS www.ommwriter.com

So you've come across a web page that looks interesting, but lack the time to read it. Do you drag the URL to your desktop, adding to the clutter? Do you bookmark it? Do you add yet another entry to *iCal* or your note-taking app? *Quick Read* provides a simpler alternative: drag the URL to a menu extra. *Quick Read*'s menu-bar-based coffee cup displays a count of your stashed links, and clicking accesses the list, enabling links to be viewed, edited or deleted. The developer's website also offers a bookmarklet, which you can add to your browser's bookmarks bar, enabling single-click stashing of pages.
Craig Grannell

VERDICT

★★★★½

"A smart, efficient (but Snow Leopard-only) add-on for storing web page links."

>> WRITING ENVIRONMENT

Ommwriter 1.0b1

Free Write in tranquility

CONTACTS http://bambooapps.com/free-stuff

Ommwriter is a rarity in today's software market: a text editor that does something different. Eschewing a 'bigger is better' approach, it offers a streamlined interface that aims to make writing pleasurable. The app is full-screen, with optional snowy landscape background, ambient 'music' and typing sounds. Options are selected via buttons at the side of your text, which appear when the mouse is moved. This app is quite evocative – good for gathering thoughts – but for serious writing, the version tested lacked word and character counts, and activating spell-checking was unnecessarily awkward.
Craig Grannell

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"An interesting approach to distraction-free writing, but WriteRoom is better."

>> MAIL MINIMISER

MiniMail 2.0.1

$30 (£19) Mail on top

CONTACTS http://photostyler.corner-a.com

This radical *Mail* notification app apes the *iTunes* mini player, making *Mail*'s window tiny when you click the zoom button. The window can optionally be forced to stay on top of others, and you can customise the mailboxes shown within. *MiniMail* also offers a Quick Look-style full preview of messages.

During testing, we had lock-ups under Snow Leopard with 'single mini viewer' mode, but 'multiple mini viewers' mode (which enables user-defined mailboxes per window) was fine, and the app was good for permanent at-a-glance *Mail* visibility. But on balance, we prefer *Mail.appetizer* and *Herald*.
Craig Grannell

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"Not bad, but the competition is free, more efficient and generally less distracting."

Issue 211
August 2009

The new MacBook Pro
40 new iLife tips
Upgrade to iPhone 3.0
Digitise analogue media
On the disc
Flux 1.0, Syncables Desktop SE 5 and Install Builder 6.1.2

Issue 212
September 2009

Save money on an iPhone
MobileMe investigated
Make iPhone ringtones
New MacBook Air reviewed
On the disc
CoverScout 2, Aiko 4 Starter Pack, Style Master 4.6

Issue 213
October 2009

101 best-ever Mac tips
Final Cut Studio reviewed
Making music on Mac
Monitor group test
On the disc
Carrara 6 Pro, Finance 5.0, plus tutorial files and more

Issue 214
November 2009

The new iPod nano
App Store controversy
Get to grips with iTunes 9
Work smarter in OS X
On the disc
Trax OS, QuickApps 1, KavaServices 3

Issue 215
December 2009

20 Mac problems sorted
iPhone GPS apps tested
Make a podcast jingle
Portable HD group test
On the disc
GrupaDupa 1.0.3, SWF Encrypt 4, Twit Menulet 4

Issue 216
January 2010

Ultimate guide to iPhoto
Get fit with iPhone
Master Mac OS X file sharing
10 Apple milestones
On the disc
Advanced Link Manager, New Star Soccer, Crayon Ball

Back issues

Want to order a back issue of MacFormat? Hurry – stock is limited!

You've only just missed...

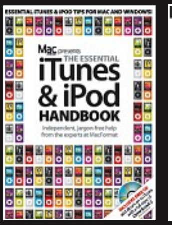
Issue 217 / February 2010

Detox your Mac
Kickstart a sluggish system

Plus...
Sort your photos using GPS
Investigating Apple TV 3.0
Solid-state drives on group test
Cleaning up your Mighty Mouse
Harness RSS feeds
Customise Mac OS X

On the disc
AppDelete 2.2.3, Mac-HaBu Bronze 10.3.2, 4W WebMerge 1.9.5, top shareware and more

Why not also try these...



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iPhone

» MEET YOUR iPHONE EXPERT
Deputy Editor Christopher Phin knows more about the iPhone than any one man has the right to.

● NEW RELEASES ● SMALL APPLICATIONS ● USEFUL UTILITIES ● TRUSTED REVIEWS

NEWS IN BRIEF

O2 apologises for network problems

The head of O2 has apologised to customers who have experienced problems making calls in London because of saturation by bandwidth-hungry smartphones. Ronan Dunne said "any short-term blip" in O2's "network reputation" would be "more than addressed" by the steps it's taking to recify the problems, which include installing 200 additional mobile base stations.

Apple buys Quattro Wireless

Following its failed bid to acquire AdMob, Apple recently purchased competitor Quattro Wireless. Both platforms are mobile advertising services, a market due to expand as smartphones become both more capable and ubiquitous. It's unclear how Apple plans to use its new acquisition, but Quattro Wireless' CEO Andy Miller now holds the title of Vice President of Mobile Advertising at Apple.

» CLIPBOARD MANAGER

Pastebot

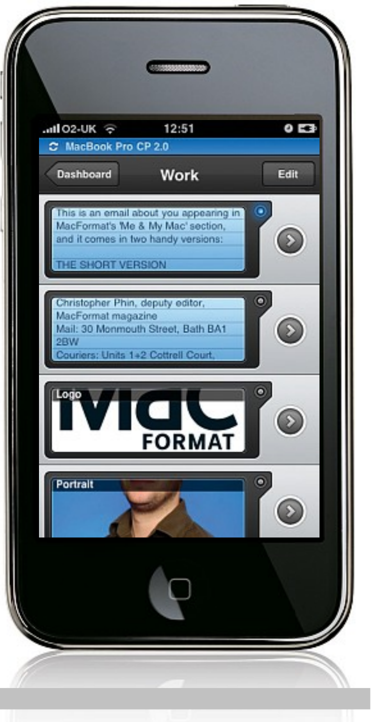
Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£1.79 Copy & paste addicts can now rest easy…

CONTACTS
Developer: Tapbots

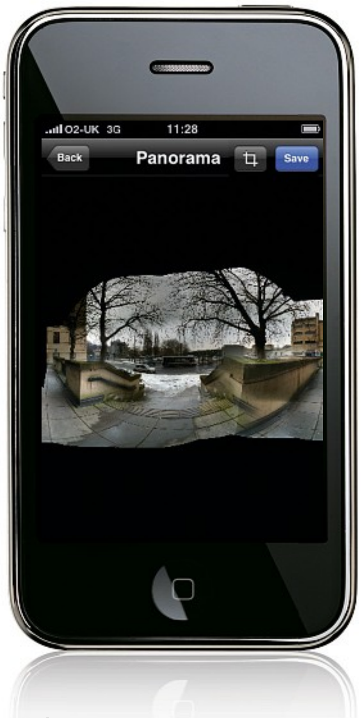
VERDICT
★★★★★
"As a stand-alone app, it's good. Add in the Mac syncing, and it becomes great."

At its most prosaic, *Pastebot* is a clipboard manager for your iPhone or iPod touch. But rather than just being able to copy and then paste a single snippet of text or a picture, *Pastebot* lets you save an unlimited number of these snippets, optionally organised into folders. The impressive thing, though, is that it can sync with your Mac; copy a snippet of text on your Mac and it's pushed to *Pastebot*, and vice versa. You can even copy images straight from *Finder*. You can apply filters to images, and text can have useful transformations such as 'convert to upper case' or 'wrap in HTML tags' applied.



This is an email about you appearing in MacFormat's 'Me & My Mac' section, and it comes in two handy versions:
THE SHORT VERSION

Christopher Phin, deputy editor, MacFormat magazine
Mail: 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW
Couriers: Units 1+2 Cottrell Court.



» PHOTO STITCHER

AutoStitch Panorama

£1.19 Create stunning high-resolution panoramas

You can measure of how disruptive the iPhone and the App Store is when an app that takes individual shots and stitches them together to create seamless panoramas costs less than the price of a takeaway latte. Note that a Mac app such as *Stitcher* costs more than a 32GB iPhone 3GS on a cheap tariff!

And the results are good, especially as it's all completely automatic. Sure, the differently exposed shots sometimes create a slightly patchy appearance, but we're completely sold. It can take a while (particularly since you can create high-res panoramas) but it's easy, fun and cheap.

CONTACTS
Developer: Cloudburst Research Inc

VERDICT
★★★★☆
"This is terrific fun and a great way to combat the iPhone camera's lack of wide-angle shooting."

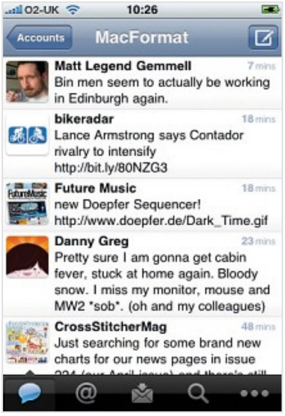
The top 10 iPhone Apps

Here are the ten apps we think everyone should add today…

01 Tweetie

£1.79 Our favourite Twitter client

We know that you might not be interested in a client for the microblogging service Twitter, but *Tweetie* is such an excellent example of how apps make the iPhone great that it takes our top spot nonetheless; Twitter was born for the iPhone. *Tweetie* lacks only push notifications (though you could add that with an app such as *Boxcar*) to make it the ultimate Twitter app; it can geotag your tweets, let you view conversations, supports Lists, the new retweet feature and more.



Matt Legend Gemmell 7 mins
Bin men seem to actually be working in Edinburgh again.

bikeradar 18 mins
Lance Armstrong says Contador rivalry to intensify http://bit.ly/80NZG3

Future Music 18 mins
new Doepfer Sequencer! http://www.doepfer.de/Dark_Time.gif

Danny Greg 23 mins
Pretty sure I am gonna get cabin fever, stuck at home again. Bloody snow. I miss my monitor, mouse and MW2 *sob*. (oh and my colleagues)

CrossStitcherMag 48 mins
Just searching for some brand new charts for our news pages in issue

02 Documents To Go

£8.99 Word, Excel and PowerPoint editing

Documents to Go has the best word processor we've seen on iPhone, letting you create and edit *Word* docs while retaining formatting. It can work with *Excel* and *PowerPoint* documents, too, and the *Premium* edition lets you grab attachments from *Gmail* or *Exchange* servers.

03 The Guardian

£2.39 Get your news on the go!

We're often asked why you'd spend money on an app that lets you do something that's free through *Safari*. This app is a good answer. Not only can you tailor the news that is delivered, but it's simple to use and you can cache stories to read offline when you're on the Tube.

04 TomTom UK & Ireland

£59.99 Turn-by-turn directions

There are cheaper apps that add turn-by-turn navigation to the iPhone 3GS (the £26.99 *CoPilot Live* app will happily get you from A to B) but it should come as no surprise that the app from TomTom is by far the most polished. It lacks live traffic info, but we hope that's coming soon.

05 Facebook

£FREE Social networking client

The great thing about this app is that it lets you keep in touch with friends and upload photos from the iPhone's camera straight to Facebook. It also offers push notifications too. Now as soon as a friend comments on your status, you'll know.

06 Reeder

£1.79 The best RSS reader

This little app syncs with Google Reader, a service for reading RSS feeds from your favourite sites. Though the interface looks a little sparse, it's actually stuffed with features, and since there are lots of Google Reader clients for the Mac too, you can keep your feeds in sync.

07 Mobile Allowance

£0.59 A super billing assistant

Whether your iPhone came from O2 or Orange, this is a fantastic app for keeping track of how much of your monthly allocation of minutes and texts you have used, plus any extra charges. We installed the free O2 one, but went back to *Mobile Allowance* as it's much cleaner.

08 Instapaper Pro

£2.99 Offline reading

You know how you often come across articles on the web that you want to read, just not now? Ping them to the free *Instapaper* service, then use this app that caches for offline reading for you to read later. There's a free version too, though it lacks the tilt-to-scroll feature.

09 RedLaser

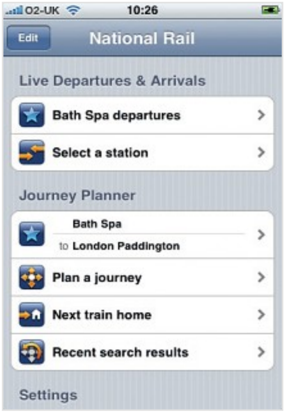
£1.19 The ultimate price checker

This app uses the iPhone's camera to take pictures of barcodes, then looks for the product online to check prices. Amazon results are first, but it also supports Google Product Search to query a huge number of other online stores. Just don't let the staff in HMV catch you!

10 National Rail Enquiries

£4.99 Rail journey planner

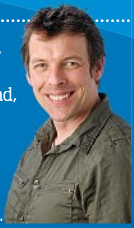
Sure, you can use *Safari* to muddle through the National Rail's website to find times, but, while it's expensive, this app is an essential investment for regular train-users. It helps plan journeys, optionally remembering your favourite stations and even favourite journeys, and shows the live progress of your train. Our favourite feature: tap a button marked 'Next train home' and the iPhone will work out where you are, where your closest station is, and when the next train leaving for your home station departs.



Games

» MEET YOUR GAMES GURU

Andy Dyer is a legend, having worked on many games mags. He now gets his gaming fix on his iMac and iPod touch.



● ACTION & ARCADE ● PUZZLE & STRATEGY ● ONLINE ADVENTURE ● iPHONE GAMES

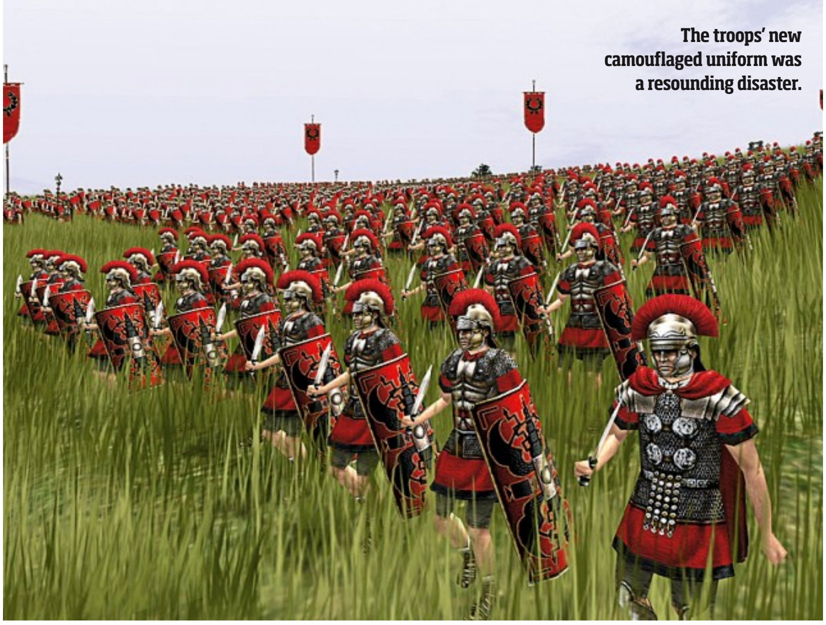
NEWS IN BRIEF

The best of Two Worlds

The PC and Xbox 360 game *Two Worlds* was praised by fans for its involved role-playing aspects, naysayers complained that it was a rip off of *Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion*. However, *Two Worlds 2* promises to be less divisive and arrives any day now, so look out for our review next issue. **www.twoworlds2.com/en**

Better red than dead

Red Conquest is an excellent iPhone action strategy game that's popped up on our radar. Don't be fooled by the retro visuals, this is not a straightforward shooter, but a complex game that takes a bit of getting into. Once you do though, you won't be able to resist its real-time mixture of resource management and battling. **catinaboxgames.com**



The troops' new camouflaged uniform was a resounding disaster.

» STRATEGY PREVIEW

Rome: Total War Gold Edition

Rome Total War – what is it good for? We find out as attack launches on the Mac

While it's been a long time coming to Mac, any day now we'll get our hands on *Rome Total War* (featuring the *Barbarian Invasion* expansion), and finally discover what all the fuss was about when the game originally appeared on PCs back in 2004.

This is wargaming on a massive scale and thanks to the game's unique combination of turn-based strategy and real-time battles you get right into the thick of the action.

Initially players can assume control over one of three Roman families, or houses. Each house has a different set of goals to achieve and over the course of the game, the player will raise a family, the sons of which will, at the age of 16, be stationed at a city and then assume control over it. As the influence grows, it can amass armies with a view to conquering provinces and thus extend its power base. Once a campaign has been completed, the player can assume the role of nations such as Egypt, Carthage and the Persians.

> *"The graphics engine is capable of drawing thousands of troops that can be shovelled around in real time"*

The real draw in *RTW* is the turn-based battling. The graphics engine is capable of recreating scenery based on the strategic map, and can handle drawing thousands of troops that can be shovelled around in real time.

Other strategic elements also come into play, such as the use of sea-going vessels to move troops around and cut off enemies' trade routes, and you can also enlist the help of more covert operatives such as spies, assassins and, most sinister of all, diplomats.

We can't imagine there being any particularly major disasters occurring with the Mac implementation so join us here next month for a more in-depth review. ●

>> FOOTBALL SIMULATION

Championship Manager 2010

£30 The start of the new season is looking stronger than ever with this footy sim

After a few seasons languishing in the long shadow of *Football Manager*, *Championship Manager* returns with a whole raft of improvements that places it right back up in the premiership of footy management games. However, whether it's yet quite ready to take the top spot is debatable but it's certainly set to have its strongest season for years.

The most obvious improvement is the brand-new 3D graphics engine, which is used for displaying matches. It isn't *FIFA* by any means, but the player animations are sufficiently diverse enough to ensure that there are some genuinely interesting and exciting highlights to each match. During a game you can speed up the action, change the viewpoint and alter tactics at crucial moments. What was once a gaping hole in the franchise is now a thoroughly enjoyable part of the experience.

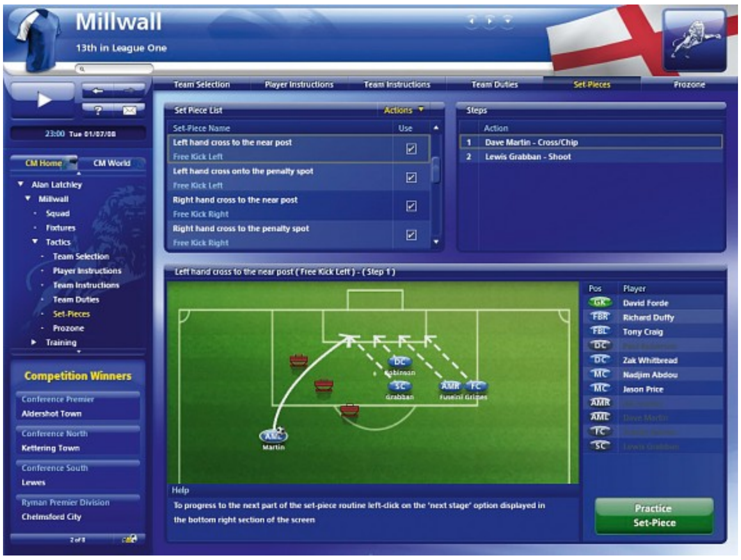
Having been pretty much totally revamped, most other features are either new or much improved. The set-piece editor is a joy to use, and any set piece you've decided upon can immediately be practised live so you can see exactly what the outcome is before you actually commit to it as a designated tactic.

> *"Speed up the action, change the viewpoint and alter tactics. What was once a hole in the franchise is now a part of the experience"*

Straight talking

Team talks are also very slickly handled, with options for an overall management approach (be that encouraging, aggressive or whatever) and there's the option to talk to individual players if someone isn't performing as well as they might.

The keyword for *CM2010*, perhaps, could be 'accessibility'. And it seems that great efforts have been put into making this game's features as intuitive as possible.


Millwall
13th in League One
Team Selection
Player Instructions
Team Instructions
Team Duties
Set-Pieces
Prozone
23:00 Tue 01/07/08
CM Home
CM World
Alan Latchley
Millwall
Squad
Fixtures
Tactics
Team Selection
Player Instructions
Team Instructions
Team Duties
Set-Pieces
Prozone
Training
Competition Winners
Conference Premier
Aldershot Town
Conference North
Kettering Town
Conference South
Lewes
Ryman Premier Division
Chelmsford City
Set Piece List
Actions
Set-Piece Name
Use
Left hand cross to the near post
Free Kick Left
Left hand cross onto the penalty spot
Free Kick Left
Right hand cross to the near post
Free Kick Right
Right hand cross to the penalty spot
Free Kick Right
Steps
Action
1 Dave Martin - Cross/Chip
2 Lewis Grabban - Shoot
Left hand cross to the near post (Free Kick Left) - (Step 1)
Pos
Player
GK David Forde
FBR Richard Duffy
FBL Tony Craig
DC
DC Zak Whitbread
MC Nadjim Abdou
MC Jason Price
AMR
AML
FC
SC
Help
Practice Set-Piece

To progress to the next part of the set-piece routine left-click on the 'next stage' option displayed in the bottom right section of the screen

Think tactically and develop strategies and take your virtual team all the way to the top.

So now scouting for talent is as straightforward as working your way around the world map to allocate spending to key regions. Then there's *CM's* ProZone, the post-match analysis feature enabling players to see detailed breakdowns of every aspect of their squad's – and individual player's – performance. This is a fairly complex bunch of statistics, but it's handled well enough to be easily digested, even by any relative newcomers.

Championship Manager 2010's ace up the sleeve is its CM Season Live feature. For a relatively small fee (a whole £5 to be exact) would-be managers can access a monthly download featuring real stats from the current footy season. This includes tournament and player data that mirrors what's going on in the real world and enables players to face the exact same challenges that the top managers are having to deal with.

It's a feature that's completely unique to the new *Championship Manager*, and certainly something that should prove a major draw to armchair gaffers.

A good match

Hardcore footy fans will insist that *Football Manager* is still the game of choice, and with some justification. It is a more rounded footy management experience. But *Champ Man* is now a viable alternative inasmuch as it offers some distinct and interesting features of its own, and for more casual gamers represents a much more accessible option. ●

CONTACTS

Publisher: VP Ltd
www.vpltd.com
Developer: Beautiful Game Studios
www.bgstudios.co.uk

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.5.7 or higher
Processor: any Intel CPU, GeForce 7300, Radeon X1600 or Intel GMA X3100 128MB
RAM: 1GB **Hard disk space:** 3GB
Other: internet connection for product registration

PROS & CONS

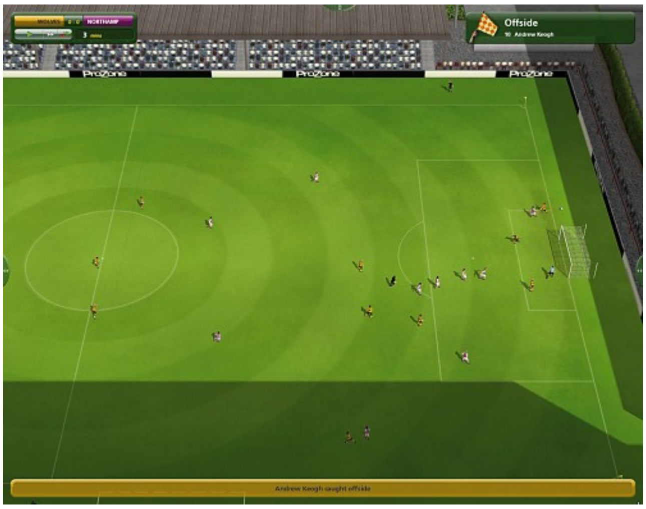
- ⊕ 3D match highlights
- ⊕ Real-world season updates
- ⊕ Set piece designer
- ⊕ In-depth post-match analysis
- ⊕ Accessible feature
- ⊖ Not as rich as FM

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A superb return to form for the Champ Man franchise. Especially friendly for novice would-be managers."

Championship Manager has been totally revamped with new and improved features.


Offside
ProZone
ProZone
ProZone

>> EXPANSION PACK

The Sims 3: World Adventures

£30 The Sims 3 gets its first fantastic of possibly several thousand expansion packs

CONTACTS

Publisher: Electronic Arts
www.ea.com
Developer: The Sims Studio
http://gb.thesims3.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OSX 10.5.7 **Processor:** Intel Core Duo Processor **RAM:** 2GB **Hard drive space:** 4.5GB **Other:** ATI x1600 or Nvidia 7300GT or Intel integrated GMA X3100, 128MB VRAM, a copy of The Sims 3

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Great locations
- ⊕ Lots of exploration
- ⊕ Heaps of collectibles
- ⊕ New skills to learn
- ⊕ Tombs are fun
- ⊖ Puzzles are a bit basic

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"An excellent way to start the expansion cycle for The Sims 3. This is an adventure well worth experiencing."

We haven't reviewed a *Sims* expansion pack for quite some time, but seeing as this is the first proper *Sims 3* expansion, we thought it might be worth a look. In fact it turns out it's worth more than just a look and should be purchased immediately by any self-respecting *Sims 3* fan.

The fact that *The Sims 3* has rebooted the franchise means that the developers can now revisit previous expansion packs for their inspiration, and here, as it was in *The Sims Vacation*, the idea is to take your sims abroad to three exotic locations. But that's where the similarity ends though, because *World Adventures* is a much more ambitious expansion offering not just a selection of extra bits and pieces to play around with, but a welcome break from the core aims of the base game.

Around the world

This expansion pack offers three global locations for your sims to explore: France, China and Egypt. When you first travel to a location you will find your movements are initially limited by your low visa rating, but the more you globe-trot, the more expansive and exciting your adventure will become.

When you first arrive at a destination you should pay a visit to the market in order to meet the locals and get a taste of the culture.

Get your sim to travel all around the world… or maybe just France, China and Egypt.

However, this game is really about adventuring and so, as a result, it won't be long before you make like a version of Indiana Jones and go off treasure hunting, or more accurately, tomb raiding.

There are plenty of tombs, catacombs and so on beneath all three of the locations and you can have a great time exploring them, solving puzzles as you go and locating treasure. However, be warned progress through tombs can be hampered by the appearance of pesky mummies who can curse you, but there are defences against the rotting monstrosities. You can, for example, tempt them with a mummy snack, offer them coins or, a bit later on in the game, take control of them and summon them into your home.

Above ground, your sims will be able to integrate with their new surroundings and learn diverse new skills such as photography, nectar making and martial arts, gradually increasing their knowledge base and expertise while upgrading their equipment as they progress.

Sims traditionalists will be very pleased to discover that as well as all the new-fangled adventuring, there's still plenty of regular expansion-style stuff packed in here.

> *"When you first arrive at a destination you should pay a visit to the market in order to meet the locals and get a taste of the culture"*

Travelling house

The enhanced building options mean you can now add on basements and additional floors to your residence. And as for the wealth of collectibles, acquired during your travels, you can take them with you and adorn your house with the themed objects to remind you of your travels. Exotic fruit and vegetables can even be introduced to your garden .

It definitely goes without saying that *World Adventures* is a really superb expansion pack. And it also goes to show that the developers, Electronic Arts is not content just to merely churn out formulaic accessory packs, but looks to give players a fresh imaginative experience.

It certainly strikes just the right balance between new gameplay twists and plenty of content for the avid collector. ●

"Aggggghhh! I want my mummy, actually let me rephrase that…"

"...a superb creation."
Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★
BIOSHOCK
18
Mac
Softline Software • Technology • Solutions
FERAL MAKE YOUR PLAY
2K GAMES

If your life were the prize
would you kill the innocent?
Would you sacrifice your humanity?
We all make choices,
but in the end
our choices make us...

The genetically enhanced shooter.

OUT NOW FOR MAC

feralinteractive.com

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>> iPHONE/iPOD TOUCH FLIGHT COMBAT

Ace Combat Xi: Skies of Incursion

£4.99 The long-running flight combat series comes to iPhone

The *Ace Combat* series features gameplay that eschews strict flight simulation in favour of a more arcadey take on airborne warfare.

Much effort has been put into making the iPhone version look great. The planes, scenery and effects are a treat. However, the controls can be fiddly, but flying using the accelerometer and accessing weapons with the on-screen buttons work well.

With only five missions it feels like you're getting short changed. But in the end it's just about worth the asking price thanks to the high production values and the replay potential offered by the game's ranking system. But come on. Five levels? Really? ●

CONTACTS

Developer: Namco
Available from the App Store

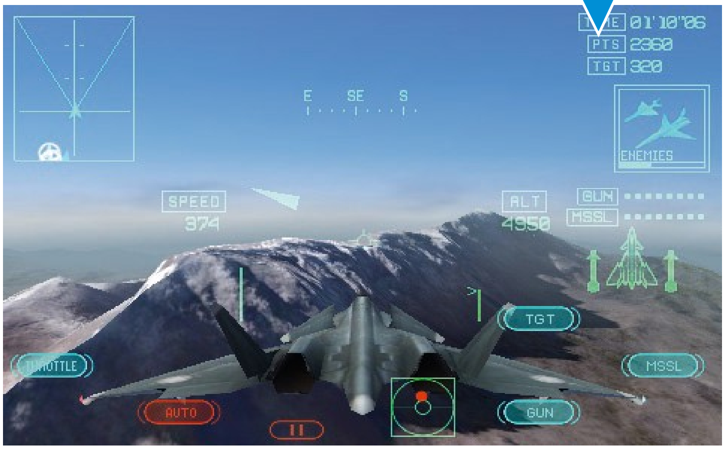
VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"This is a superbly designed game, but it's woefully short."

>> BUY ONLINE

You can download these iPhone and iPod touch games from the App Store.



Skies of Incursions looks great, but ideally we'd love a lot more of it ... five levels isn't enough.

>> iPHONE/iPOD TOUCH ARCADE

Dragon's Lair

£2.99 More heartbreaking than groundbreaking

This iPhone implementation of *Dragon's Lair* is flawless. But the problem is it's not really much of a game, but rather an animated story, the outcome of which the player controls by tapping directions and a jump button. Get it right and a clip of a successful outcome is played; get it wrong and, well, you'll see.

The animation is wonderful, of course, and the slapstick scenes are genuinely funny, but playing it is like trying to navigate a scratched DVD with a knackered remote. ●

CONTACTS

Developer: Electronic Arts
Available from the App Store

VERDICT

★☆☆☆☆

"While this is a great for collectors, it's awful for gamers."

Playing Dragon's Lair can make you feel extremely frustrated, but surely not this bad?

>> iPHONE/iPOD TOUCH ACTION PUZZLER

Labyrinth 2

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£2.99 An a-maze-ingly good game...

We suspect the original *Labyrinth* – in which you tilted the iPhone to send a steel ball from the start to the finish of a wooden maze - was the gaming equivalent of Marmite. You either loved it or hated it.

If you loved it, you'll love the sequel. There's plenty to make the task harder including buffers, cannons, moving walls and magnets. It offers so much variety that there's something for everyone. It's exactly the sort of game iPhone was made for. ●

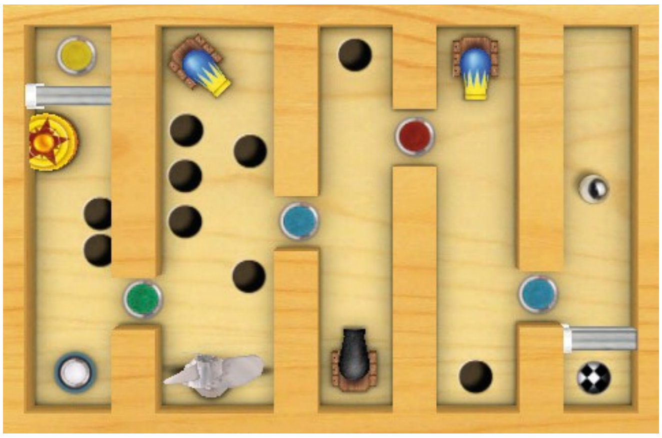
CONTACTS

Developer: Illusion Labs
Available from the App Store

VERDICT

★★★★★

"This is a fantastic expansion of the original game."



Simple, addictive and loads of fun. Labyrinth 2 is a hit as far as we're concerned.

Mac User Groups

Find fellow Mac enthusiasts near you! Here's a list of the UK & Ireland MUGs

[1] Aberdeen MUG
Aberdeen
davidjearly@mac.com
www.abdnmug.co.uk

[2] Bristol & Bath MUG
Bath
info@bbmug.co.uk
www.bbmug.co.uk

[3] Berkshire & North Hampshire MUG
Reading area
i.j.burn@reading.ac.uk

[4] Blackburn MUG
Blackburn
info@bmug.co.uk
www.bmug.co.uk

[5] Bracknell Forest MUG
Bracknell, Berks
office@bfmuguk.org
www.bfmuguk.org

[6] ClubMac Ireland
Dublin
secretary@clubmac.ie
www.clubmac.ie

[7] Cork University College
Cork
d.murphy@cs.ucc.ie
www.ucc.ie/mug

[8] Cumbria Mac Enthusiasts
Barrow-in-Furness
CumbriaMacEnthusiasts@steel.clara.net
home.clara.net/steel/cme_home.htm

[9] Deaf Mac Users
Website group for the hard of hearing
nick@sturley.co.uk
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/deaf-macs/

[10] Durham University MUG
Durham
durmac@durham.ac.uk
www.dur.ac.uk/durmac

[11] Edinburgh MUG
Edinburgh
admin@edmug.org.uk
www.edmug.org.uk

[12] Exeter MUG
Exeter
examug@mac.com
www.examug.org.uk

[13] FAMUS (Fife)
Kirkcaldy
davidwlaw@btinternet.com
www.fifedirect.org.uk/famus

[14] Glasgow MUG
Glasgow
glas.mug@mac.com
www.glasmug.com

[15] Harlech MUG
South Snowdonia
ian@climb8.com

[16] Isle of Wight MUG
Isle of Wight
admin@iowaug.org.uk
www.iowaug.org.uk

[17] Kent & East Sussex MUG
Kent
www.kesmug.org

[18] London MUG
London
secretary@lmug.org
www.lmug.org.uk

[19] MACUS (Manchester)
Manchester
davjaeger@macunlimited.net

[20] Midlands MUG
Birmingham
group@mmug.org.uk
www.mmug.org.uk

[21] Northern Ireland MUG
Belfast
matt@nimug.org

[22] North West Mac Group
Near Warrington
info@nwmug.co.uk
www.nwmug.co.uk

[23] Norwich MUG
Norwich
norwichmacusergroup@mac.com

[24] Oban MUG
Oban
obanmug@mac.com

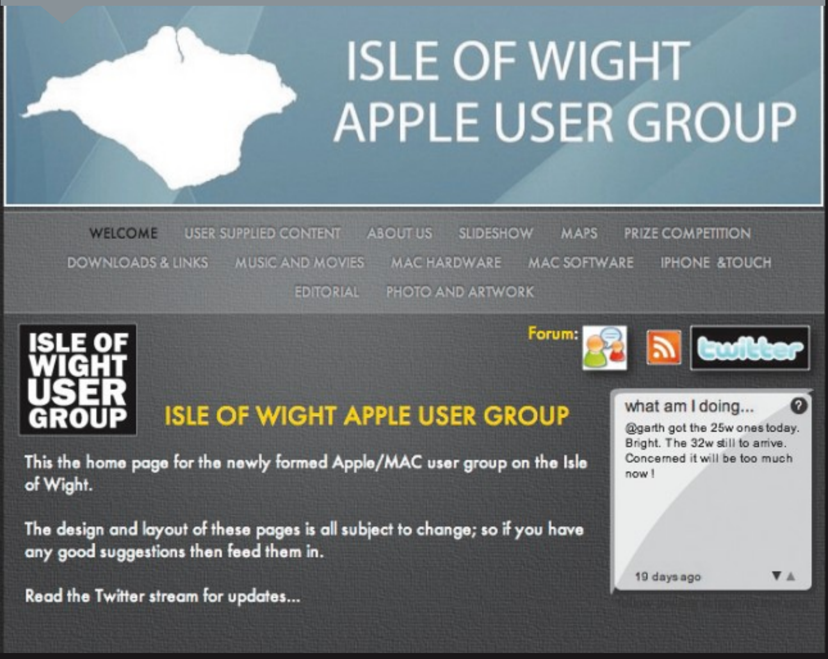
[25] OxMUG
Oxford
www.oxmug.org

[26] Potteries MUG
potmug@mac.com
www.potmug.com

[27] Severn MUG
South West
admin@s-mug.com
http://s-mug.com

[28] Southampton Uni
Southampton
trf.106@soton.ac.uk

MUG OF THE MONTH / Isle of Wight MUG



ISLE OF WIGHT APPLE USER GROUP

This the home page for the newly formed Apple/MAC user group on the Isle of Wight.

The design and layout of these pages is all subject to change; so if you have any good suggestions then feed them in.

Read the Twitter stream for updates...

what am I doing...
@garth got the 25w ones today. Bright. The 32w still to arrive. Concerned it will be too much now !
19 days ago

It seems that wherever there are people, there are groups of Mac users! The Isle of Wight Apple User Group website (**http://iowaug.org.uk/Site/Welcome.html**) is full of helpful information for Apple users on this island off the South coast of England. The group hasn't had an actual meeting yet, but interact through its forum at **http://iowaug.org.uk/Forum**. Why not find out what it's like being an Apple fan off the mainland! ●

[29] South Essex MUG
Wickford, Essex
chairman@seal-apple.co.uk
www.seal-apple.co.uk

[30] South Wales MUG
Cardiff
swmug@applewiz.biz
www.swmug.org.uk

[31] Sneem MUG
Sneem
sean@smug.ie
www.smug.ie

[32] Stroud Mac User Group
Stroud
jmuy@aol.com

[33] Suffolk Mac User Group
Ipswich
mike@mikekwasniak.co.uk
suffolkmacusergroup.co.uk

[34] Swindon MUG
Swindon
swindonmacusergroup@googlemail.com
http://swindonmacusergroup.googlepages.com

[35] Surrey MUG
Surrey
monigmagr@mac.com

[36] Three Counties MUG
Luton, Bedfordshire
info@3cmug.co.uk
www.3cmug.co.uk

[37] Wessex MUGs
Fareham, Dorchester, Bournmouth & Salisbury
enquiries@wamug.org.uk
www.wamug.org.uk

[38] Yorkshire MUG
Doncaster & other towns
ymug@mactalk.info
www.ymug.org

NEW STARTER

START YOUR OWN MUG

If you're planning on starting up a new MUG in your area, or you have recently set one up, let us know and we'll print the details here. Email **macformat@futurenet.com**

When the worst happens - when everything is lost - it's reassuring to know you backed up online.
Illustration by A.k.A.

>> OFFSITE BACKUP SERVICES

Global response

Backing up your Mac is insurance against disaster. **Ian Betteridge** checks out six online services

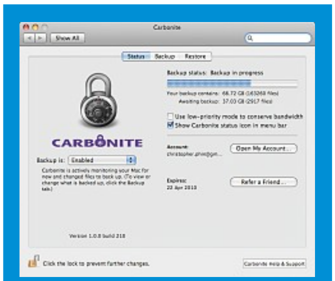
We know, we know: we're supposed to back up. Yet it's something that even some *MacFormat* writers neglect to do. Despite our Macs being the home of thousands of personal and business files, many of us went for years without a backup. Everything from irreplaceable photos to invoices and tax returns could have been gone in the time it takes to say: "What's that light flashing for?"

Then along came Apple's *Time Machine*, which performed something of a miracle in getting us all to back up regularly. But it's not the perfect solution. Suppose, for example, your house catches fire; rescuing the cat will probably be a higher priority than remembering to get either your Mac or that drive you back up to out of the flames – and rightly so.

Thanks to fast, always-on connectivity though, there is a simple solution: backing up your machine safely over the internet to a server somewhere well away from your house or office. And thankfully, there are services around which make this a simple process – perhaps not quite as simple to use as *Time Machine*, but more secure and capable of saving you in cases of real disaster.

In this test we look at six services which can help you back up securely over the internet: Backblaze, Carbonite, CrashPlan, DropBox, SugarSync and Mozy. If they can get me backing up securely and regularly, they can probably do the same for you.

> *"Back up your machine safely over the internet to a server somewhere well away from your house or office"*



Backup status: Backup in progress

Backup is: Enabled

☐ Use low-priority mode to conserve bandwidth
☑ Show Carbonite status icon in menu bar

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Carbonite Help & Support

>> DID YOU KNOW?

Some broadband services have data caps, which restrict the amount of data you can transfer in a month. Check your agreement to see if your connection is capped, and at what level – online backup can quickly push you over a limit, which can be expensive depending on the service.

On test this issue

Backblaze $5 p/month

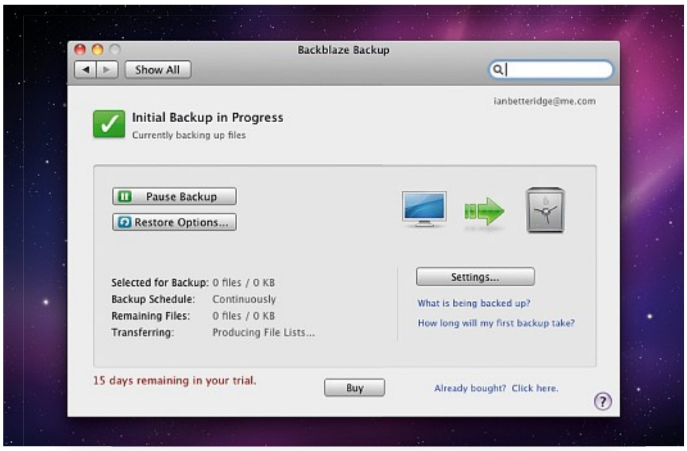
Carbonite $4.57 p/month

CrashPlan $4.50 p/month

DropBox $9.99 p/month

SugarSync $4.99 p/month

Mozy $4.95 p/month



ianbetteridge@me.com

Initial Backup in Progress
Currently backing up files

Selected for Backup: 0 files / 0 KB
Backup Schedule: Continuously
Remaining Files: 0 files / 0 KB
Transferring: Producing File Lists...

What is being backed up?
How long will my first backup take?

15 days remaining in your trial.

Already bought? Click here.

Blackblaze is happy to work in the background away from prying eyes.

>> TEST ONE

Ease of use

Backup should be hassle-free and in the background

Backblaze is designed to be almost completely invisible to users. Once installed, it works in the background backing up every file on your Mac, with a few exceptions – notably applications, system files, and single files over 4GB in size. There's really nothing else for you to do.

CrashPlan's interface offers more options than any other service, which is to be expected given that in addition to backing up online to its CrashPlan Central service, it's also capable of backing up to a local hard drive. Carbonite includes a very Mac-friendly restore assistant that walks you through getting your files back.

DropBox and SugarSync are designed mainly for synchronising files between computers, but can also be easily used for backup.

However, probably the easiest-to-use interface is Mozy's. Not only does it let you specify files and folders to back up, but it also uses presets that let you back up things like *Safari* bookmarks, keychains, and *iCal* calendars.

>> TEST RESULTS

Backblaze	★★★☆☆
Carbonite	★★★☆☆
CrashPlan	★★★☆☆
DropBox	★★★★☆
SugarSync	★★★★☆
Mozy	★★★★★

>> TEST TWO

Mac-friendliness

How well does each package cope with a Mac?

Macs have peculiarities. Resource forks and packages, for example, are unique to the Mac, and not every service handles them well.

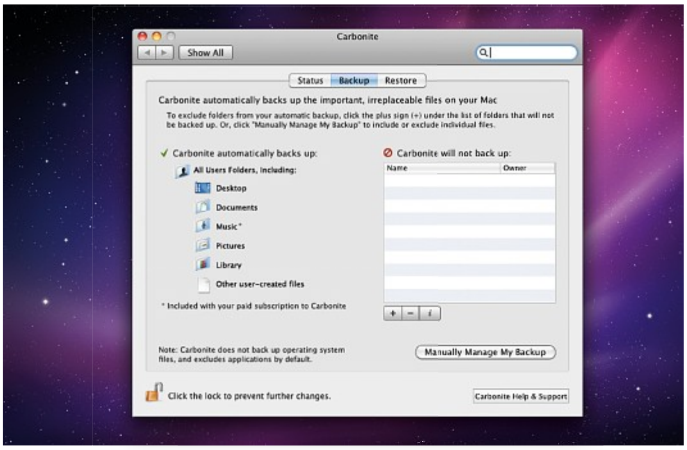
Backblaze and Mozy offer good levels of Mac-friendliness. Not only do they handle all the quirks of Mac files, like packages, but everything is easily configured – in Backblaze's case through a *System Preferences* pane, while an application takes care of Mozy.

CrashPlan showed packages as folders rather than single files within its interface, but restored them correctly as packages. Carbonite, too, struggled a little with package files when viewed through its web interface, although they restored perfectly through the application.

Both SugarSync and DropBox have some problems with package files. Although backing up and restoring to the same Mac should work, since they treat packages as if they were folders, if a part of the package is changed on more than one machine it can cause issues.

>> TEST RESULTS

Backblaze	★★★★★
Carbonite	★★★★☆
CrashPlan	★★★★☆
DropBox	★★★★☆
SugarSync	★★★★☆
Mozy	★★★★★



Carbonite automatically backs up the important, irreplaceable files on your Mac

To exclude folders from your automatic backup, click the plus sign (+) under the list of folders that will not be backed up. Or, click "Manually Manage My Backup" to include or exclude individual files.

✓ Carbonite automatically backs up:

All Users Folders, including:
Desktop
Documents
Music*
Pictures
Library
Other user-created files

* Included with your paid subscription to Carbonite

⊘ Carbonite will not back up:

Note: Carbonite does not back up operating system files, and excludes applications by default.

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

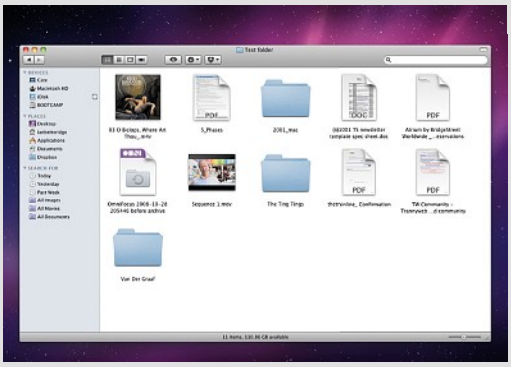
Carbonite had some issues with package files when viewed through its web interface.

>> BACKUP ANALYSIS / How we tested the services

Our main criteria were ease of use, value for money, Mac compatibility, the capacity of the backup, and any additional features over and above backing up your files.

For most of the products, we used a standard 1GB folder of mixed-size files from a single Intel-based Mac. We were using a 24Mb/second broadband connection, which delivered speeds of up to around 750kb/second when restoring files (and much slower speeds when sending files to servers). Some products also gave the option of backing up larger sets of files. Because of time constraints, we chose to backup and restore smaller sets – typically, a backup of 280GB of files in our Home folder would have taken over five days to complete!

Once our file set was backed up, we then attempted to restore selected files, using both web interfaces and client software. Because broadband speeds vary throughout the day, we didn't take too much account of differences in speed, although if a piece of software was particularly slow, we noted it.



We used the same 1GB folder of files with each service tested.

>> TEST THREE

Ease of recovery

How well do these products recover your files?

Backblaze aims to make recovery as easy as possible, even going as far as letting you recover data from a Mac to a Windows machine. You can also order files on DVD (for $99) or a USB hard drive ($189), which adds to your options. Mozy, too, lets you restore from either the application or a web interface, or order DVDs.

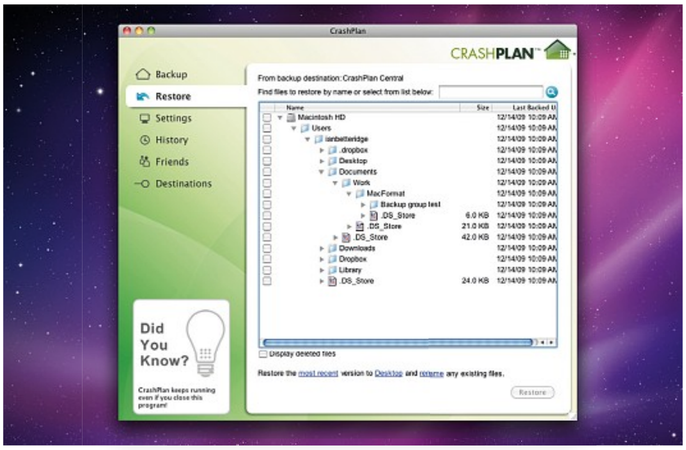
However, there's a small quirk: if you restore via the web interface, you could lose some metadata on files (such as date modified). If you restore through the application, though, this isn't an issue.

Recovering from CrashPlan or Carbonite is very easy too, with the option of restoring either from the app or through the web interface.

Recovery with both DropBox and SugarSync was incredibly simple too. When we installed the product from scratch, we just gave it our login details for the service and everything was sucked back down from the servers in a streamlined fashion – nothing was missing and everything worked.

>> TEST RESULTS

Backblaze	★★★★★
Carbonite	★★★★☆
CrashPlan	★★★★☆
DropBox	★★★★☆
SugarSync	★★★★☆
Mozy	★★★★★



From backup destination: CrashPlan Central

Find files to restore by name or select from list below:

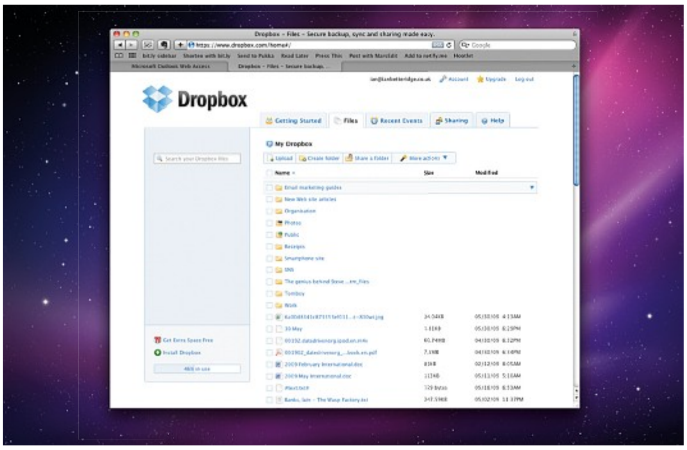
Name	Size	Last Backed U
Macintosh HD		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Users		12/14/09 10:09 AM
ianbetteridge		12/14/09 10:09 AM
.dropbox		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Desktop		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Documents		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Work		12/14/09 10:09 AM
MacFormat		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Backup group test		12/14/09 10:09 AM
.DS_Store	6.0 KB	12/14/09 10:09 AM
.DS_Store	21.0 KB	12/14/09 10:09 AM
.DS_Store	42.0 KB	12/14/09 10:09 AM
Downloads		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Dropbox		12/14/09 10:09 AM
Library		12/14/09 10:09 AM
.DS_Store	24.0 KB	12/14/09 10:09 AM

☐ Display deleted files

Restore the most recent version to Desktop and rename any existing files.

CrashPlan keeps running even if you close this program!

CrashPlan proved itself a capable service when it came to the recovery of data.



DropBox's online access is tremendously simple to use away from your main Mac.

>> TEST FOUR

Online access

Can you get to your files through a web browser?

All of the products on test enable you to access your files and restore them through a web interface, as well as their own client software. Backblaze, CrashPlan and Carbonite's interfaces are simple, but effective – although it's worth remembering that none of them correctly display package files; showing them as folders rather than single packages is the workaround. Mozy's interface, too, is on the simple side – but it correctly displays packages.

Both DropBox and SugarSync include additional features in their web interface, primarily focused on sharing files via email or web link. Usefully, you can also get to older versions of files through DropBox's interface – the number of older files kept depends on whether you're using the free or paid-for version. SugarSync's web interface looks a little more spartan, but works perfectly well, and handily there's a mobile-friendly web interface too. But DropBox and SugarSync win here.

>> TEST RESULTS

Backblaze	★★★☆☆
Carbonite	★★★☆☆
CrashPlan	★★★☆☆
DropBox	★★★★★
SugarSync	★★★★★
Mozy	★★★★☆

>> ALTERNATIVES / Other backup options

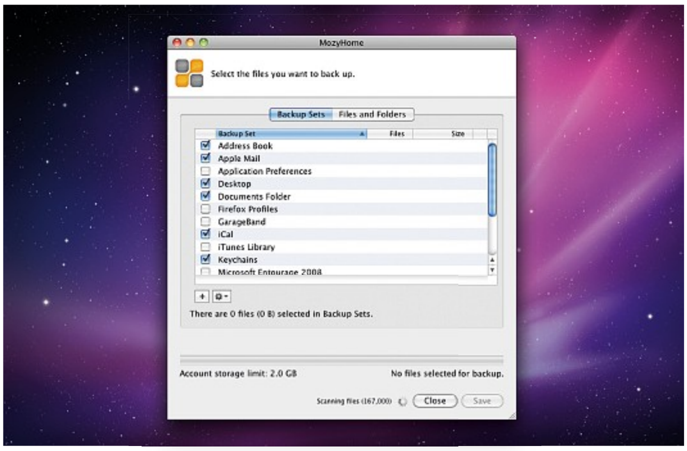
The problem with online backup is that it's not particularly fast. Because you're having to push gigabytes of data down a broadband connection, it's always going to be slower than backing up locally.

Some storage manufacturers have tried to create products that combine the best of both worlds, with local backup systems which are then, in turn, backed up online. One example of this is the Datto Z-Series of network attached storage (NAS) devices. Ranging in size from 250GB to 1TB, these enable you to back your machines up locally, so you get all the speed and simplicity of a local backup. This data is then compressed, encrypted, and backed up to two of Datto's data centres (on opposite sides of the USA). This means that, short of global catastrophe, at least one copy of your data will be in existence.

Is this overkill if all you want to do is back up your photos? Perhaps. But if you're running a small business and the data you want to save is vital to your company, then this kind of 'belt and braces' approach may be a good option, even at extra expense.

datto
Z1000
datto
Z100
datto

Big fat servers, keeping all your backed-up data totally safe and sound.



Select the files you want to back up.

- ☑ Address Book
- ☑ Apple Mail
- ☐ Application Preferences
- ☑ Desktop
- ☑ Documents Folder
- ☐ Firefox Profiles
- ☐ GarageBand
- ☑ iCal
- ☐ iTunes Library
- ☑ Keychains
- ☐ Microsoft Entourage 2008

There are 0 files (0 B) selected in Backup Sets.

Account storage limit: 2.0 GB

No files selected for backup.

Scanning files (167,000)

With Mozy, pay for years of backup space in advance and you'll enjoy significant discounts.

>> TEST FIVE

Capacity and price

Which product offers the best value for money?

The pricing for Backblaze couldn't be easier. No matter how much data you store, it's $5 per month per computer. CrashPlan's pricing is more complex, but still offers great value. A single machine can be backed up for $3.47 per month ($125 for three years), while a 'family plan' lets you back up all your household computers for just $5 per month. Carbonite costs from $54.95 for a single year ($4.57 per month) to $129.95 for three years ($3.60 per month).

Mozy's pricing, too, is very simple: $4.95 per computer per year, with some discounts if you pay for a year in advance or have many machines to back up. If your backup needs are limited, Mozy also offers a free 2GB account.

DropBox offers free and paid-for versions. You can get 2GB for free, and there are two other options: 50GB for $9.99 per month, and 100GB for $19.99 per month. SugarSync's plans are flexible, running from $4.99 per month for 30GB to $24.99 per for 250GB.

>> TEST RESULTS

Backblaze	★★★☆☆
Carbonite	★★★☆☆
CrashPlan	★★★★☆
DropBox	★★☆☆☆
SugarSync	★★☆☆☆
Mozy	★★★☆☆

>> TEST SIX

Other services

What other services do these products offer?

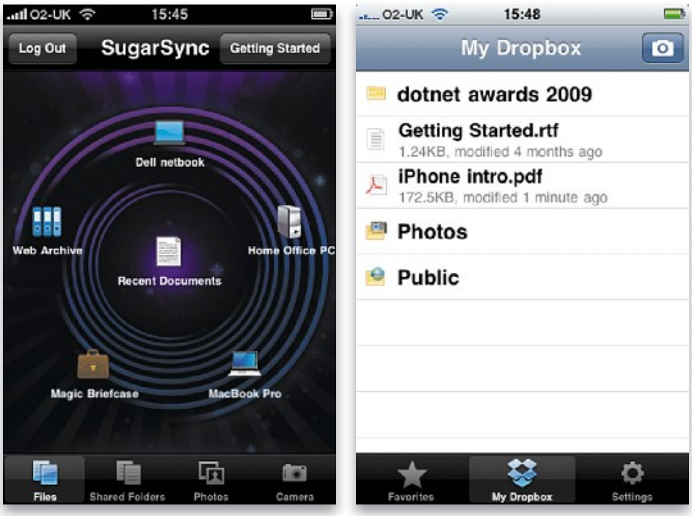
CrashPlan is unique in this test, as it includes the ability to back up locally for free to either a hard drive or another computer, making it the only service in our tests capable of local and online backup. It also includes the ability to have status reports of your backup sent to you via email or Twitter.

DropBox offers its customers a sleek, fast iPhone application that lets you access your files from your phone. You can read – but not write – any file that the iPhone supports, as well as sharing any documents by sending a link through email. This is handy if you need to share your documents with someone, but don't have a local copy available.

SugarSync leads the pack in the mobile department. Not only does the service offer a sleek iPhone application, but there's also one for BlackBerry and Android.

>> TEST RESULTS

Backblaze	★★★☆☆
Carbonite	★★★☆☆
CrashPlan	★★★★★
DropBox	★★★★☆
SugarSync	★★★★★
Mozy	★★★☆☆



dotnet awards 2009

Getting Started.rtf
1.24KB, modified 4 months ago

iPhone intro.pdf
172.5KB, modified 1 minute ago

Photos

Public

SugarSync and DropBox offer iPhone apps for keeping abreast of your backup status.

>> THE WINNER / CrashPlan

All the products on test are strong, and all have their own unique features. DropBox and SugarSync, for example, are syncing products that can also be used for backup. Mozy has its handy backup sets, and is arguably the most Mac-friendly. Backblaze is incredibly simple to use, because it auto-backs up everything.

Carbonite impressed us, combining plenty of features for fine-tuning what you're backing up with solid and reliable performance. And it does this without making the basics over-complicated.

If you're looking for a single backup solution, then CrashPlan is a great option. It's the only product capable of backing up both locally (handy for speed) and online (handy for security). If you use multiple Macs, then SugarSync is your best bet – you can combine backing up essential files with syncing them. It just beats DropBox thanks to better price plans and features.

But if backup is all you need, go for CrashPlan. It's not the most elegant service, but its ability to back up every Mac in your home for $5 per month makes it a winner.

Mac FORMAT Winner!

BACKUP SERVICES / At a glance

Backblaze
★★★☆☆

Carbonite
★★★☆☆

CrashPlan
Mac FORMAT Winner!

★★★★☆

SPECIFICATIONS			
Price (1 machine per month)	$5/month, unlimited storage	$4.57/month, unlimited storage	$4.50/money, unlimited storage
Example price (3 machines, 3 years, 30GB)	$540	$474.70	$180
Supports versioning	Yes	No	Optional
Online access to files	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sync files to multiple computers	No	No	No
Restore options	Online/DVD/Hard drive	Online	Online/hard drive
Back up external disks	Yes	Optional	Optional
Works with Intel Macs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Works with PowerPC Macs	No	No	Yes
Minimum OS	10.4	10.4	10.4

DropBox
★★★☆☆

SugarSync
★★★☆☆

Mozy
★★★★☆

SPECIFICATIONS			
Price (1 machine per month)	$9.99/month, 30GB	$4.99/month, 30GB	$4.95/month, unlimited
Example price (3 machines, 3 years, 30GB)	$297	$147	$467.77
Supports versioning	Yes	Yes	Yes
Online access to files	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sync files to multiple computers	Yes	Yes	No
Restore options	Online	Online	Online/DVD
Back up external disks	No	No*	Yes
Works with Intel Macs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Works with PowerPC Macs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Minimum OS	10.4	10.4	10.4

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HOW TO BUY

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Buyers' Guide

- DESKTOPS
- LAPTOPS
- iPODS
- iPHONES
- SOFTWARE

Graham Barlow
Editor

There were no changes to Apple's Mac, iPod and iPhone line-up as we went to press this month, but the whole Apple universe is on tenterhooks waiting for the big announcement on January 27, which is sadly after our deadline. So, by now we'd expect some revisions to have been issued and there's even the possibility of a new Apple product. The rumour mill is in overdrive again, predicting a tablet computer of some kind, like a larger version of an iPhone and running a new version of OS X designed specifically for it. Microsoft has already teamed up with HP to start work on its own version of a 'Slate' PC, however, they don't seem to have got the magic formula quite right yet – see page 6 of StartUp for our round-up of industry reaction.

Everybody is waiting with bated breath to see what Apple comes out with. Visit **www.macformat.co.uk** to see what we think of it all.

» BUYING ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Our mission is to ensure that when you buy a Mac-related product, you are completely informed about its best and worst features. We have a cast-iron policy of editorial independence. **For the latest prices and full reviews, see the TechRadar URL listed next to each review.**

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How to buy a new Mac

Not sure which Mac to buy? We'll help you make the right choice

» DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The Mac mini is now available in a server edition, with no optical drive, but two 500GB hard drives. The server edition comes with Snow Leopard Server preinstalled.

Back in October 2009, Apple updated its iMac range, as well as beefing up the specs of its Mac minis and revising its one and only MacBook. All iMacs now come supplied with the new Apple Magic Mouse, which incorporates a Multi-Touch surface for 360-degree scrolling, two-fingered swiping and screen zoom.

All Macs come with Intel Core 2 Duo chips as a minimum, so whichever Mac you choose, it's going to be powerful. Whether you need a notebook or a desktop Mac depends on how you're going to use it. Each has its own advantages and disadvantages.

> *"All Macs come with Intel Core 2 Duo chips as a minimum, so whichever Mac you choose, it's going to be powerful"*

Apple offers three Mac models for desktop users. The new iMacs boast screen sizes of up to 27 inches.

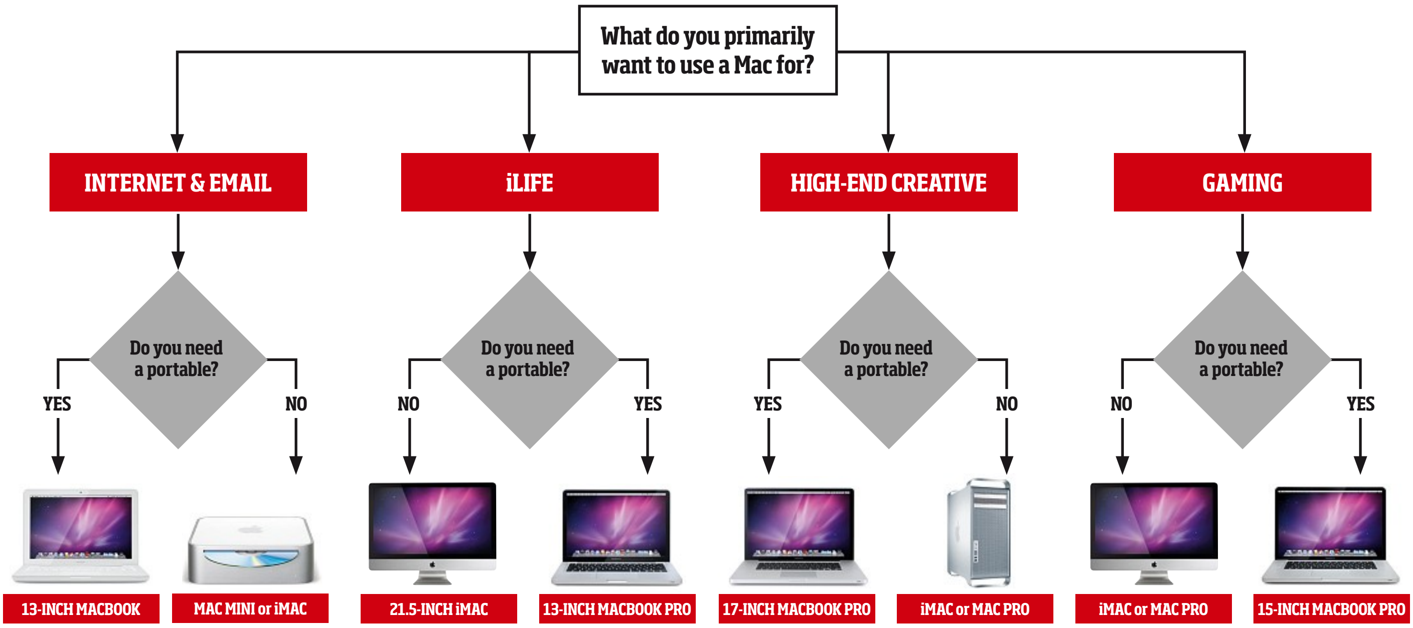
Apple's notebook range

Notebook choice is between the MacBook Pro, MacBook and MacBook Air. The brand-new white MacBook is just £816, and offers a 2.26GHz processor, a 250GB hard drive and a 13-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen display. Although it's Apple's entry-level notebook, it's still a powerful and capable machine that's ideal for students and first-time users.

The MacBook Pro family had been extended, and is now more affordable than ever. It's ideal for more processor-hungry work such as video editing or running 3D programs, as they run at higher speeds and have a faster hard drive. Starting us off are the 13-inch models with 2.26 or 2.53GHz processors and up to 4GB RAM. There are now three 15-inch versions to choose from: 2.53GHz, 2.66GHz or 2.8GHz. From £1,328, these mid-level MacBook Pros offer more screen space than the 13-inch versions and better graphics. They also have built-in SD card slots to import digital photos.

Finally we have the daddy of the family, the 2.8GHz 17-inch version with a 500GB hard drive and up to eight hours of wireless productivity. Elsewhere, the thin and light 13-inch MacBook Air has seen a speed boost and price drop. It lacks a built-in DVD drive and only has one USB 2.0 port, but it's ideally suited to a regular business traveller who takes advantage of wireless networking. An external SuperDrive will set you back an extra £65.

CHOOSING A MAC / WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?


What do you primarily want to use a Mac for?
INTERNET & EMAIL
iLIFE
HIGH-END CREATIVE
GAMING
Do you need a portable?
Do you need a portable?
Do you need a portable?
Do you need a portable?
YES
NO
NO
YES
YES
NO
NO
YES
13-INCH MACBOOK
MAC MINI or iMAC
21.5-INCH iMAC
13-INCH MACBOOK PRO
17-INCH MACBOOK PRO
iMAC or MAC PRO
iMAC or MAC PRO
15-INCH MACBOOK PRO

If you want a desktop Mac, you have the choice of a Mac mini, an iMac or a Mac Pro. If you're on a budget or desk space is limited, go for a Mac mini. The October 2009 revision improved the machine's specs without increasing the price. For £510, you now get a 2.26GHz machine with 2GB RAM and 160GB hard drive. The high-end model offers a 2.53GHz processor with 4GB RAM and a 320GB hard drive for £663. You need a monitor, keyboard and mouse, though.

Re-imagined iMacs

The October 2009 revision to the iMac range gave us four new machines, with prices starting at £969. The two cheaper iMacs boast a 21.5-inch display, while the two high-end models include a 27-inch screen. Interestingly, three of the four iMacs have 3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processors, which can be increased to 3.33GHz if you customise your iMac at the online Apple Store. The top-of-the-range model is based on a 2.66GHz quad core Intel Core i5, with a 2.8GHz quad core Intel Core i7 available as a configuration option.

These all-in-ones almost rival a Mac Pro for power, although for really intensive work you need Apple's high-end Mac. With a minimum spec of one Quad-Core 2.66GHz Intel Xeon processor, there's nothing you can't throw at a Mac Pro. With numerous online store configuration options, you can be sure the Mac you order is built to your requirements. Prices start from £1,940, but with the options of 32GB RAM upgrades and larger hard drives, you could spend a fortune. If you opt for a Mac mini or Mac Pro, you'll need a display, and Apple's Cinema Displays are ideal, with the 30-inch HD display at £1,199 or the 24-inch LED display at £649. All current Macs come with Mac OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard and the *iLife '09* suite preinstalled. ●

> *"There's nothing you can't throw at a Mac Pro, and with numerous online store configuration options, you can be sure the Mac you order is built to your requirements"*

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

All of Apple's notebooks now include an internal battery that lasts at least seven hours on a single charge, and is good for up to 1,000 charges.

Many features associated with the MacBook Pro range have trickled down to the MacBook.

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21.5-inch 3.06GHz
£969
- 3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 21.5-inch glossy widescreen (1,920x1,080 pixels)
- 4GB RAM (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 500GB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB DDR3 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800; 1xSD card
- Ships with Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard

27-inch 3.06GHz
£1,378
- 3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 27-inch glossy widescreen (2560x1440 pixels)
- 4GB RAM (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 1TB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 4670 graphics, 256MB DDR3 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800; 1xSD card; video-in port • Ships with Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard

iMac

Updated October 2009

21.5-inch 3.06GHz
£1,225
- 3.06GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 21.5-inch glossy widescreen (1,920x1,080 pixels)
- 4GB RAM (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 1TB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 4670 graphics, 256MB DDR3 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800; 1xSD card
- Ships with Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard

27-inch 2.66GHz (Quad Core) £1,634
- 2.66GHz Intel Core i5 Quad Core • 27-inch glossy widescreen (2560x1440 pixels) • 4GB RAM (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 1TB hard drive • 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • ATI Radeon HD 4850 graphics, 512MB DDR3 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FW 800; 1xSD card; video-in port • Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09, Magic Mouse, keyboard

>> DID YOU KNOW THIS?
The high-end Mac mini now offers a 2.53GHz processor, 4GB of RAM and a 320GB hard drive.

2.26GHz 160GB
£510
- 2.26GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 2GB RAM (2x 1GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 160GB Serial ATA, 5,400 rpm hard drive
- 3MB shared L2 cache
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB of shared DDR3 SDRAM
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AirPort Extreme (802.11n)
- 1x FireWire 800 port
- 5x USB 2.0 • Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09
- Mini-DVI to DVI adaptor

Updated October 2009

Mac mini

2.53GHz 320GB
£663
- 2.53GHz Intel Core 2 Duo
- 4GB RAM (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 320GB Serial ATA, 5,400 rpm hard drive
- 3MB shared L2 cache
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB of shared DDR3 SDRAM
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AirPort Extreme (802.11n)
- 1x FireWire 800 port
- 5x USB 2.0 • Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife '09
- Mini-DVI to DVI adaptor

Mac Pro

Quad-Core
£1,940

- 2.66GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon • 3GB RAM (3x 1GB DDR3 ECC SDRAM) • NVIDIA GeForce GT 120 with 512MB of GDDR3 with Mini DisplayPort and dual-link DVI video output
- 640GB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s • 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW) • 3x open full-length PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots • 5x USB 2.0; 4x FireWire 800 ports
- Keyboard & Mighty Mouse

8-Core
£2,553

- 2x 2.66GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon • 6GB RAM (6x 1GB DDR3 ECC) • NVIDIA GeForce GT 120 with 512MB of GDDR3 with Mini DisplayPort and dual-link DVI video output
- 640GB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s • 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD+R DL/DVD± RW/CD-RW) • 3x open full-length PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots • 5x USB 2.0; 4x FireWire 800 ports
- Keyboard & Mighty Mouse

Updated
March
2009

13-inch 1.86GHz
£1,174

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels • 1.86GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor • 2GB DDR3 SDRAM • 120GB Serial ATA, 4,200rpm
- Built-in 802.11n WiFi and Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM • Mac OS X Snow Leopard • 1x USB 2.0 port
- Mini DisplayPort
- MagSafe power adaptor

13-inch 2.13GHz
£1,378

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels • 2.13GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor
- 2GB DDR3 SDRAM • 128GB solid-state drive
- Built-in 802.11n WiFi and Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM • Mac OS X Snow Leopard • 1x USB 2.0 port
- Mini DisplayPort
- MagSafe power adaptor

MacBook Air

13-inch white 2.26GHz
£816

- 13.3-inch glossy widescreen, 1,280x800 pixels • 2.26GHz Intel Core 2 Duo • 3MB shared L2 cache
- 2GB RAM (2x DDR2SDRAM)
- 250GB Serial ATA,5,400rpm
- 8x SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/ DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB shared DDR3 SDRAM
- AirPort Extreme • Built-in iSight video camera
- Bluetooth 2.0

MacBook

13-inch 2.26GHz
£918

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.26GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache
- 2GB (2x 1GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 160GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/ DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB DDR3 SDRAM • Precision aluminium unibody
- Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife '09 • 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

13-inch 2.53GHz
£1,174

- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.53GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 250GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/ DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB DDR3 SDRAM • Precision aluminium unibody
- Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife '09 • 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

15-inch 2.53GHz
£1,328

- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.53GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 250GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA
- SuperDrive 8x (DVD±R DL/ DVD±RW/CD-RW) • NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB GDDR3 memory • Precision aluminium unibody • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife '09 • 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

15-inch 2.66GHz
£1,531

- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.53GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 3MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 320GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA • SuperDrive 8x
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB GDDR3 memory + 9600M GT with 256MB GDDR3 memory • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife '09
- 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card slot

15-inch 2.8GHz
£1,736

- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.8GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 6MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM) • 500GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA • SuperDrive 8x
- NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB GDDR3 memory + 9600M GT with 512MB GDDR3 memory • Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife '09
- 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SD card

17-inch 2.8GHz
£1,889

- 17-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,920x1,200 pixels
- 2.8GHz Intel Core 2 Duo 6MB shared L2 cache
- 4GB (2x 2GB DDR3 SDRAM)
- 500GB, 5,400rpm Serial ATA
- SuperDrive 8x • NVIDIA GeForce 9400M with 256MB DDR3 SDRAM + 9600M GT with 512MB GDDR3 memory
- Mac OS X Snow Leopard and iLife '09 • 1x FireWire 800, 3x USB 2.0, 1x ExpressCard/34 slot

Updated
October
2009

MacBook Pro

iPod
Music
Videos
Photos
Podcasts
Extras
Settings
Shuffle Songs
Now Playing
MENU
9:42 AM
Akon
Beautiful
Freedom
3:40
2 of 14
-1:32
MENU

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> *"The nano enjoyed the biggest [September 2009] revision, with a new camera that captures audio and video, but not stills"*

How to buy an iPod

There's an iPod for everyone, and we're here to help you find your ideal model

The iPod range got a significant update in September 2009. The nano enjoyed the biggest revision, with a new camera that captures audio and video, but can't take still photographs. It also offers a larger screen at 2.2 inches corner to corner, an FM radio with Live Pause functionality and a pedometer.

The shuffle's VoiceOver feature makes its way to the nano too, so you can navigate through your artists, songs and playlists without looking at the screen. Curiously, although the 16GB nano has dropped in price to £138 from £146, the 8GB model is up to £118 from £107, making the higher-capacity nano a much more attractive option.

The iPod shuffle has had a minor update. You now have five colours to choose from, not just black or grey. It comes in two capacities, a 2GB model for £46 and a 4GB version for £60. For our money, the 4GB shuffle is better value. If you're feeling rich, there's a special edition iPod shuffle stainless steel model, which is available exclusively from Apple stores (including online) and costs £77. It's very shiny, but considering it's functionally identical to the standard 4GB model, is it really worth the extra money?

The latest iPod touch

The iPod touch also got an upgrade in September 2009, but not with a camera, as had been predicted. The 16GB model is dropped and a new 64GB version added. The 32GB model is reduced in price to £234 from £283, and the 8GB version is down to £152 from £165. The new 32GB and 64GB iPod touch models feature improved performance and support for OpenGL ES Version 2.0 graphics, which is great news for gamers. Now your games can offer more realistic textures and even greater detail.

And finally, don't forget the classic. At £193 for 160GB, it still offers the best cost-per-GB ratio of any iPod. ●

Updated
September
2009
MENU

iPod classic

iPod classic 160GB

£193

- Up to 40,000 songs
- Up to 25,000 photos
- Up to 200 hours of video
- Available in black and silver
- 2.5-inch screen
- 320x240 pixels
- Battery lasts up to 36 hours (audio)
- Battery lasts up to 6 hours (video)
- 103.5x61.8x10.5mm
- 140g

iPod nano 8GB

£118

- Up to 2,000 songs
- Up to 7,000 photos
- Up to 8 hours of video
- Available in silver, black, purple, blue, green, yellow, orange, pink and PRODUCT (RED) • 2.2-inch diagonal screen • 320x240 pixels
- Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio) or 4 hours (video)
- Includes camera & FM radio
- 90.7x38.7x6.2mm
- 36.8g

iPod nano 16GB

£138

- Up to 4,000 songs
- Up to 14,000 photos
- Up to 16 hours of video
- Available in silver, black, purple, blue, green, yellow, orange, pink and PRODUCT (RED) • 2.2-inch diagonal screen • 320x240 pixels
- Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio) or 4 hours (video)
- Includes camera & FM radio
- 90.7x38.7x6.2mm
- 36.8g

Updated
September
2009
MENU

iPod nano

iPod shuffle

Updated September 2009

iPod shuffle 2GB

£46

- Up to 500 songs
- No ability to display photos or videos
- Available in a range of colours
- No screen
- VoiceOver technology enables iPod to talk to you
- Battery lasts up to 10 hours (audio)
- 45.2x17.5x7.8mm
- 10.7g

iPod shuffle 4GB

£60

- Up to 1,000 songs
- No ability to display photos or videos
- Available in a range of colours
- No screen
- VoiceOver technology enables iPod to talk to you
- Battery lasts up to 10 hours (audio)
- 45.2x17.5x7.8mm
- 10.7g

iPhone

Updated June 2009

Voice Control
call
play
shuffle
Cancel
315° NW
8 of 38

iPhone 3G 8GB

£349

- Available in black
- 3.5-inch widescreen
- 320x480 pixels • WiFi (802.11b/g)• Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR Battery lasts up to 24 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 7 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (talktime)
- 300 hours (standby)
- 115.5x62.1x12.3mm • 133g

For contract and tariff info go to **www.o2.co.uk**

iPhone 3GS 16GB

£449

- Available in black or white
- 3.5-inch widescreen
- 320x480 pixels • WiFi (802.11b/g) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
- Photo and video geotagging
- Battery lasts up to 30 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 12 hours (talktime)
- 115.5x62.1x12.3mm • 135g

For contract and tariff info go to **www.o2.co.uk**

iPhone 3GS 32GB

£549

- Available in black or white
- 3.5-inch widescreen
- 320x480 pixels • WiFi (802.11b/g) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR
- Photo and video geotagging
- Battery lasts up to 30 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 12 hours (talktime)
- 115.5x62.1x12.3mm • 135g

For contract and tariff info go to **www.o2.co.uk**

iPod touch

Updated September 2009

iPod touch 8GB

£152

- Up to 1,750 songs
- Up to 10,000 photos
- Up to 10 hours of video
- Available in black
- 3.5-inch screen
- 320x480 pixels
- WiFi (802.11b/g)
- Nike + iPod support
- Battery lasts up to 22 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 5 hours (video)
- 110x61.8x8mm
- 120g

iPod touch 32GB

£234

- Up to 7,000 songs
- Up to 25,000 photos
- Up to 40 hours of video
- Available in black
- 3.5-inch screen
- 320x480 pixels
- WiFi (802.11b/g)
- Nike + iPod support
- Battery lasts up to 22 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 5 hours (video)
- 110x61.8x8mm
- 120g

iPod touch 64GB

£306

- Up to 14,000 songs
- Up to 50,000 photos
- Up to 80 hours of video
- Available in black
- 3.5-inch screen
- 320x480 pixels
- WiFi (802.11b/g)
- Nike + iPod support
- Battery lasts up to 22 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 5 hours (video)
- 110x61.8x8mm
- 120g

>> iPHONE vs iPOD TOUCH

The iPhone is not just a phone – it's also a great iPod. Steve Jobs even called it "the best iPod Apple has ever made". But at 8GB the iPhone 3G is not capacious, which is annoying as the 3.5-inch screen just calls out for you to load it up with bulky video files. The latest iPhone 3GS comes in a 32GB size, which is more like the kind of capacity you need for movies, but there are some key differences between the iPod touch and iPhone.

The obvious one, of course, is that the iPod touch doesn't have the ability to make phone calls. Fair enough, but remember that this also means that the iPod touch users won't have access to the internet – browsing, updating weather and stock widgets and sending and receiving email – when out of range of a WiFi hotspot.

The payoff is that an iPhone costs a lot more, and you also have to pay for the data you use. You either have to take out a contract with O2 or buy it on Pay & Go from £349.

The iPod touch currently lacks many of the iPhone's features, including a camera, voice control and digital compass. Rumours that a camera would be included in a future iPod touch were not confirmed in the September 2009 update, but it may happen in the future. To find out more about iPhone 3GS tariffs visit **www.o2.co.uk**.

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CW [Pro]

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Tel. 0208 400 9400

KEYBOARDS & MICE

Apple Wireless Keyboard

★★★★★

Price: £56 **Reviewed:** Issue 189
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/53760
Key specs: Dimensions: 27x11.5x1.43cm; Connections: Bluetooth only; Power: 3x AA batteries; requires Mac OS X 10.4.10

⊕ Stunning; wireless; easy to type on; compact
⊖ Needs Mac OS X 10.4.10 to work

"The Wireless Keyboard is superb in every way. It's another design classic from the Apple creative team."

Wacom Bamboo Fun Small ★★★★★

Price: £89 **Reviewed:** Issue 214
Full review: www.techradar.com/637575
Key specs: 1,024 pressure levels; Gestures
⊕ Gesture support, good software bundle
⊖ Expensive

Macally mGlide ★★★★☆

Price: £28 **Reviewed:** Issue 212
Full review: www.techradar.com/619206
Key specs: Wireless operation; small form factor
⊕ Perfect match for your Apple keyboard
⊖ It's a little small

PRINTERS & ALL-IN-ONES

Canon PIXMA MP640

★★★★★

Price: £187 **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/644919
Key specs: Printer (9,600x2,400dpi, 5-ink printing); supports all major memory card formats; on-body printing

⊕ Phenomenal feature package; great print quality
⊖ Weak instructions might confuse newbies

"The mix of stellar print quality and an excellent feature package make the Canon MP640 a great buy."

HP Officejet Pro 8500 ★★★★☆

Price: £235 **Reviewed:** Issue 210
Full review: www.techradar.com/603509
Key specs: Printer/scanner/email; 4,800dpi
⊕ Packed with features; great text printing
⊖ Average photo printing; expensive

Lexmark E260dn ★★★★☆

Price: £218 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/268952
Key specs: Mono laser printer
⊕ Cheap to run, easy setup and great text quality
⊖ Simple feature set

DISPLAYS

Apple Cinema Display

★★★½☆

Price: £649 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/500220
Key specs: 24-inch LED screen, 1,920x 1,200, 16.7 million colours, three self-powered USB ports, iSight camera

⊕ Beautiful colour reproduction; impressive sound; oozes quality
⊖ Display stand needs revamping; only for Macs with Mini DisplayPort

"An incredible piece of kit for Macs with a Mini DisplayPort. Screen quality is first rate, with great consistency."

Samsung 2233SW ★★★★½

Price: £169 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/628604
Key specs: Low-cost SyncMaster monitor
⊕ Excellent value for money
⊖ No speakers

Hanns G Hi221DP ★★★★☆

Price: £129 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/500421
Key specs: 22-inch widescreen, 1,680x1,050 res
⊕ A solid performer; good looking
⊖ Terrible built-in audio

SPEAKERS/HEADPHONES

Sennheiser CX 300-II

★★★★★

Price: £25 **Reviewed:** Issue 207
Web: www.sennheiser.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/562193
Key specs: Frequency response 19Hz-21KHz; Impedance 16Ω; Weight 4g; Extras: three sets of cups and carry pouch

⊕ Superb value; great audio at a bargain price
⊖ Slightly flabby bass; there are better buds around, but not at this price

"We can't say it loudly or plainly enough: buy a set of Sennheiser CX 300-II. Accomplished sound, and cheap."

Revo Blok ★★★★½

Price: £175 **Reviewed:** Issue 209
Full review: www.techradar.com/593649
Key specs: Aux input for all recent iPods
⊕ Rich, deep sound; excellent remote
⊖ Not for iPhone; can't sync with Mac

Altec Octiv AIR M812 ★★★★☆

Price: £262 **Reviewed:** Issue 214
Full review: www.techradar.com/638130
Key specs: Wireless; iPod dock; FM tuner; Aux
⊕ Polished, rounded sound; very stylish
⊖ Could play nicer with an iPhone

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Canon EOS 500D

★★★★☆

Price: £570 (body) **Reviewed**: Issue 209
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/596771
Key specs: 15.1MP; 4,752x3,168 res; HD recording; Card formats: SD, SDHC; File formats: JPEG, RAW.

+ Increased ISO sensor; HD DV recording; 3-inch LCD
− High price; no external mic socket for video

"If you're happy to pay for the privilege of high-quality movies, this EOS is a great buy."

Olympus µ Tough 8000 ★★★★☆

Price: £255 **Reviewed**: Issue 210
Full review: www.techradar.com/603073
Key specs: 12MP; 5-18.2mm lens
+ Waterproof to 10m; shockproof; good wide angle
− Controls are awkward to use

Samsung ST1000 ★★★★½

Price: £235 **Reviewed**: Issue 215
Full review: www.techradar.com/644939
Key specs: OS X 10.4 or later
+ Good pics and movies; great GPS
− Too expensive

DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERAS

Samsung VP-HMX 20C

★★★★☆

Price: £375 **Reviewed**: Issue 202
Web: www.samsung.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/528224
Key specs: 2.7-inch LCD; movie capture at 2.1MP and still image at up to 4MP; HD lens delivering 10x optical and 10x digital zoom

+ Good screen; lightweight; offers full HD resolution
− Really need to shop around to find affordable price

"This lightweight HD camera captures high-quality video and still images. Its 80GB internal memory is a plus point."

Canon HV30 ★★★★½

Price: £1000 **Reviewed:** Issue 201
Full review: www.techradar.com/468942
Key specs: HDV; DIGIC II processor; MiniDV/SD card
+ Superb stills and video; better than HDD
− Cumbersome to use

Panasonic SDR-S26 ★★★☆☆

Price: £164 **Reviewed:** Issue 207
Full review: www.techradar.com/561668
Key specs: Sensor: 1/8 inch CCD; Compression: MPEG-2
+ Small enough to fit in coat pocket
− Files need converting to play on Mac

ROUTERS/NETWORKING

AVM FRITZ!Box 7270

★★★★★

Price: £160 **Reviewed**: Issue 212
Web: www.fritzbox.eu
Full review: www.techradar.com/621127
Key specs: 1x USB 2.0, 4x Ethernet, 1x WAN; 802.11n; modem supports ADSL and ADSL2; integrated DECT base station

+ Packed with features, including impressive array of telephony functions
− No simultaneous dual band

"The router's advanced traffic-shaping feature really impressed. An extremely high quality piece of kit."

Iomega Home Media ★★★★☆

Price: £97 **Reviewed:** Issue 207
Full review: www.techradar.com/577291
Key specs: 500GB; 1x Gigabit Ethernet; 1x USB 2.0
+ Easy to set up and use; elegant interface
− Can't set up playlists

Billion BiPAC P104 ★★★★☆

Price: £77 **Reviewed:** Issue 207
Full review: www.techradar.com/560834
Key specs: Transfer rate up to 200Mbps
+ Great alternative to WiFi
− Bulky, though this is inevitable

STORAGE

My Book Studio II 4TB

★★★★½

Price: £410 **Reviewed**: Issue 212
Web: www.wdc.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/618319
Key specs: 4TB; USB 2.0, FireWire 400/800 and eSATA connectivity; can be reconfigured to different RAID settings

+ Four terabytes; triple interface
− Not exactly cheap; chassis is a little flimsy

"Impressive performance and connection for those who need extra space. Pleasantly styled and easy on the eye."

Buffalo TeraStation III 2TB ★★★★☆

Price: £613 **Reviewed**: Issue 210
Full review: www.techradar.com/604216
Key specs: 2TB capacity; 2x Gigabit Ethernet
+ Fast read/write performance; huge storage space
− Expensive even for capacity; flimsy door

Apple Time Capsule 2TB ★★★★☆

Price: £388 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/629850
Key specs: 1x USB 2.0, 3x Ethernet, 1x WAN
+ Simultaneous dual band; high capacity
− No built-in modem

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BUYERS' GUIDE

iPOD ACCESSORIES

Belkin TuneBase FM

★★★★★
Price: £50 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Web: www.belkin.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/628966
Key specs: A very cheap way of integrating your iPhone into your in-car music system

⊕ ClearScan; RDS; can charge other USB device; great build quality
⊖ FM signal can be crackly, and sometimes drops out altogether

"As a cheap way of tying your iPhone into your car's system, it can't be beat."

Clickfree Transformer SE ★★★★★

Price: £37 **Reviewed:** Issue 217
Full review: www.techradar.com/612086
Key specs: Use any USB hard drive for backups
⊕ Back up your iPod or iPhone's music, and more
⊖ Interface needs a little polish

Joby GorillaMobile Holder ★★★★★

Price: £32 **Reviewed:** Issue 217
Full review: www.techradar.com/658979
Key specs: Supports iPod 3G and 3GS
⊕ Flexible, strong, versatile, fun and functional
⊖ No spirit level

MAC ACCESSORIES

Shure PG27 USB Mic

★★★★☆
Price: £167 **Reviewed:** Issue 211
Web: www.shure.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/611534
Key specs: Frequency response: 20Hz-20kHz; Pattern: cardioid polar; Attenuation; 0db /-20db

⊕ Great range of sound; easy to set up; on-mic monitoring capability
⊖ Single microphone use only

"Shure's PG27 mic represents the new breed of USB-based active mics. If you're after a single-mic setup, it's great."

Elgato turbo.264 HD ★★★★½

Price: £133 **Reviewed:** Issue 209
Full review: www.techradar.com/596751
Key specs: Output: iPod high/standard; iPhone; PSP
⊕ Super-fast H.264 encoding
⊖ No longer supports PowerPCs; expensive

Sanho HyperMac 222Wh ★★★★★

Price: £302 **Reviewed:** Issue 212
Full review: www.techradar.com/619294
Key specs: 222 watt-hours; Weight: 4.7lbs
⊕ Charges internal batteries; can power iPhone
⊖ Expensive; high-capacity models are very heavy

iPHONE APPLICATIONS

Twitterrific Premium

Sources
MacFormat
AA

MacFormat
@LewisBeachey http://tinyurl.com/b67rr9 :-)
TomIsGeek
@MacFormat Hi MacFormat :D
James Turner
@MacFormat Witty bon mots. I'm sure I don't know what you mean! :-)
Dave Rutt

★★★★½
Price: £2.39 **Reviewed:** Issue 210
Web: www.iconfactory.com
System reqs: iPhone OS 2.2 or later
Available from the App Store, directly through your iPhone or via iTunes.

⊕ Lovely interface; beefed-up features list; support for multiple accounts
⊖ Reposting between accounts is tricky; basic stuff needs configuring

"An application that definitely repays the time spent exploring it. A firm favourite."

Birdhouse ★★★★★

"To tweet, or not to tweet: that is the question"
-Shak

Price: £2.39 **Reviewed:** Issue 209
System reqs: iPhone OS 2.1

⊕ Draft multiple Twitter notes before you tweet
⊖ Only useful if you are a complete Twitter addict

RedLaser ★★★★★

Price: £1.19 **Reviewed:** Issue 216
System reqs: iPhone OS 2.0

⊕ Read a barcode and then check online prices
⊖ Results weaker on iPhone 3GS than original

SYSTEM UTILITIES

Micromat TechTool Pro 5

★★★★★
Price: £98 **Reviewed:** Issue 206
Web: www.micromat.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/528167
System reqs: PPC G4 or G5 or any Intel Mac; OS X 10.4.9 or later; DVD ROM drive; Quartz Extreme graphics support

⊕ Fast and stable; comprehensive tools; proactive alerts and monitors
⊖ Updated FTP disappoints

"If your budget can only accommodate one commercial system utility, make it TechTool Pro 5."

Prosoft Drive Genius 2 ★★★★½

Drive Genius 2
PRO

Price: £79 **Reviewed:** Issue 208
Full review: www.techradar.com/589923
System reqs: G4, G5 or Intel; OS X 10.4.9 or later
⊕ Comprehensive set of tools
⊖ RAID not supported

iStat Menus 2.0 ★★★★★

Price: Free **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Full review: www.techradar.com/645026
System reqs: OS X 10.5 or later
⊕ Flexible, stable and useful; great date and time
⊖ Gradient-happy interface

HOME OFFICE

Apple iWork '09

★★★★☆

Price: £69 **Reviewed:** Issue 205
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/500293
System reqs: G4 (500MHz or faster) processor, Mac OS X 10.4.11 or later, 512MB RAM (1GB recommended)

⊕ Keynote is a market leader, and the rest of the apps are catching up
⊖ Both Numbers and Pages still lack some basic features

"The '09 update sees some good features added and some general improvements. Worth it for Keynote alone."

APP4MAC Twin 1.01 ★★★★★

Price: £25 **Reviewed:** Issue 211
Full review: www.techradar.com/611922
System reqs: Power PC G4, G5/Intel Mac
⊕ Back up to multiple destinations; easy to use
⊖ None

FileMaker Bento 3 ★★★★☆

Price: £30 **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Full review: www.techradar.com/644983
System reqs: OS X 10.5.7 or later
⊕ iPhoto integration; password security
⊖ Layout tools still a little inflexible

VISUAL TOOLS & LAYOUT

Photoshop Elements 8

★★★★½

Price: £75 **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Web: www.adobe.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/644205
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.4.11 or higher; 1GB hard drive space; 512MB RAM (1GB recommended)

⊕ Great Recompose tool, smart brush for special effects, Scene Cleaner
⊖ Intel-only, interface a little gloomy

"Lots of exciting tools, offering virtually all the controls you need at a truly affordable price."

BeLight Printfolio ★★★★½

Price: £49 **Reviewed:** Issue 208
Full review: www.techradar.com/589659
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.4 or later
⊕ Comprehensive range of user-friendly apps
⊖ Not great at exporting between them

Dream Capture ★★★★☆

Price: £7 **Reviewed:** Issue 211
Full review: www.techradar.com/611327
System reqs: G5 Mac; 3.5MB disk space
⊕ Instantly saved videos; good value for money
⊖ Some file sizes very large

GAMES

X3: Terran Conflict

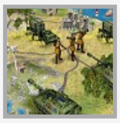
★★★★★

Price: £30 **Reviewed:** Issue 216
Web: www.egosoft.com
System reqs: Intel processor, 2.16GHz or greater; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.5.7; GeForce 8600, Radeon X1600 or later; 256MB VRAM; 7GB hard drive space

⊕ Amazing looks; astonishing depth; new ships and control system
⊖ Hard to get into; a little po-faced

"If you don't mind the seriousness and complexity, there's no better way to fulfil your galaxy-hopping fantasies."

Civ IV: Beyond the Sword ★★★★★



Price: £20 **Reviewed:** Issue 214
Web: www.aspyr.com
System reqs: G5/Intel 1.8GHz; 512MB RAM
⊕ Loads of scenarios; new civilisations; Great VFM
⊖ Won't win over non-fans of previous games

BioShock ★★★★★

Price: £34 **Reviewed:** Issue 215
Web: www.2kgames.com
System reqs: 1.8GHz CPU; 1.5GB RAM; 8GB HDD space
⊕ Great story; amazing visuals; interesting themes
⊖ Too quick to reveal its secrets

MULTIMEDIA SOFTWARE

Apple iPhoto '09

★★★★★

Price: £71 (iLife '09) **Reviewed:** Issue 206
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/527969
System reqs: PowerPC G4 or G5, or any Intel Mac; 512MB RAM (1GB recommended); Mac OS X 10.5.6 or later; 4GB HDD space

⊕ Practical tools, new options to export slideshow, Places a useful addition
⊖ Faces could be better, few cameras have GPS

"The new features are great, but there's some room for improvement in the Faces facial-recognition facility."

Apple Logic Studio ★★★★★

Price: £408 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/625541
System reqs: Intel Mac; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.5.7
⊕ Powerful music studio; great tools; good value
⊖ Some minor bugs in the initial release

Anime Studio Debut 6 ★★★★☆

Price: £40 **Reviewed:** Issue 211
Full review: www.techradar.com/611940
System reqs: G4+; 256MB RAM; OS X 10.4
⊕ Excellent features and tutorials
⊖ No texture mapping or lighting

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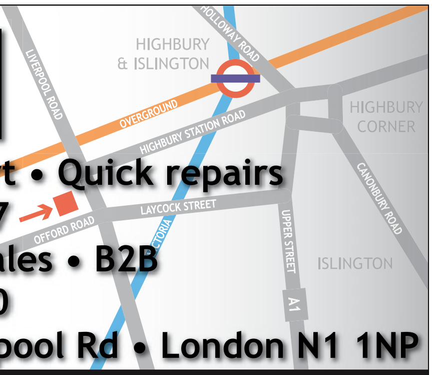

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DISCOVER HOW TO...

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ALL THIS AND MORE!

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On the disc

● FULL SOFTWARE ● EXCLUSIVE DEMOS ● ESSENTIAL SHAREWARE ● READER OFFERS

Welcome to the disc

Issue 218

Many laud *Front Row* for being both effective and simplistic, but on occasions this may contribute to an application's downfall. Mac users can be forgiven when they glance enviously over at *Windows Media Center*. It offers a wealth of functionality unavailable to *Front Row* users. The downside, of course, is that you need Windows, and it's easier to stick with *Front Row* rather than wade through the furore of booting into another OS just to watch the latest Hollywood blockbuster or listen to your favourite music. However, there is an alternative in the form of *XBMC*.

> *"XBMC offers a 10-foot user interface, meaning you can rig your Mac mini up to a 50-inch TV"*

It was formerly exclusively for the Xbox, but *XBMC* is now available as a native application for many platforms, including OS X. It offers a 10-foot user interface, giving you the perfect excuse to rig your Mac mini up to your 50-inch living room TV. I particularly love the array of plug-ins available, resulting in *XBMC* being a very feature-rich proposition. There's support for TV programme guides, YouTube, Hulu, Veoh, movie trailers and SHOUTcast/podcast streaming. So be sure to give it a try on this issue's disc.

Each issue, New Media Editor Simon Holland selects a fantastic array of software for you to enjoy on your Mac.

>> CATALOGUE UTILITY

Archive 5

Catalogue and search files on your hard disk

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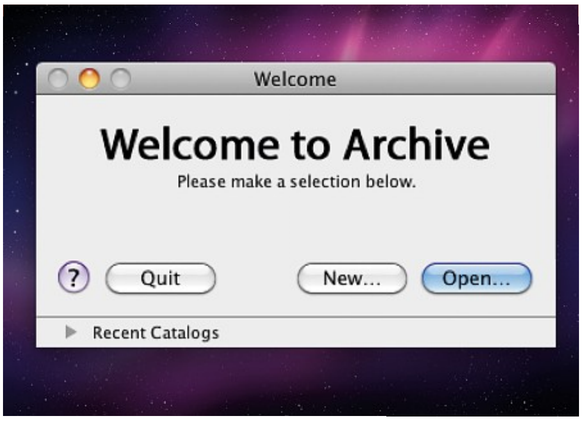

Welcome

Welcome to Archive

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>> DOWNLOADS MANAGER

Fresh 1.2.2

After-download file management

If you've ever had that sinking feeling when you mooch over to *Finder* in search of that file that you were working on, have just downloaded or prefer to keep handy, but can't remember its name, then you'll want to fire up *Fresh* from the disc. Once clicked, the software will display a graphic of the file from which you'll be able to open, rename, tag or deal with it in some other manner. Not only that, it's designed to be completely unobtrusive on your desktop – it will hide itself when you're not using it – which makes your on-screen organisation of windows all the more manageable.

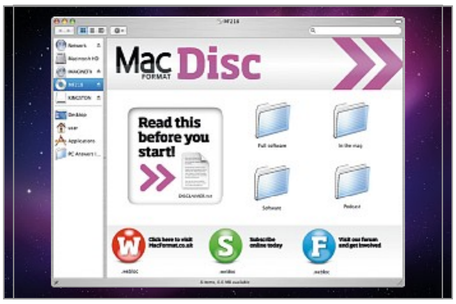
>> FILE SYSTEM UTILITY

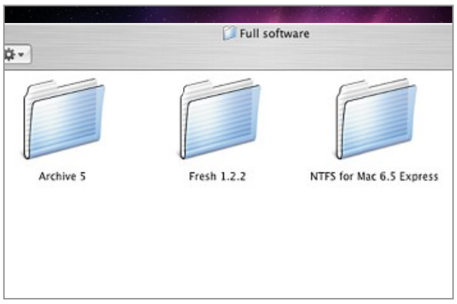
NTFS for Mac 6.5 Express

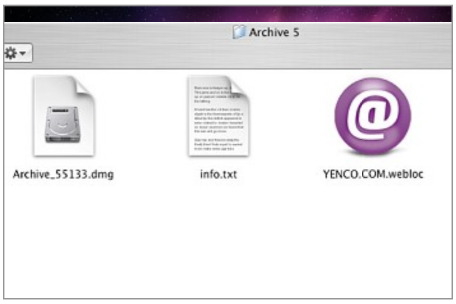
OS X support for the Windows file system

PC switchers make up a significant portion of the Mac userbase. As a result of this, there's a clamour for improved support for NTFS, the primary file system of Windows XP and Vista. OS X uses the HFS+ (Hierarchical File System), which at best only offers read-only support for NTFS volumes. For that reason, Paragon has designed this utility, which it says "breaks down the barriers" between Windows and the Mac. The driver makes it possible to read and write data to any NTFS partition.

HOW TO / Install the programs on your disc







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02 The software

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03 Getting the apps

Selecting an item will load details about the software. To delve straight into the app, click Click here to open. An installer will load or you will go to a window to extract the archive or execute the setup file manually.

Full disc contents

The complete list to what you'll find on your disc this issue

FULL SOFTWARE

Archive 5
Fresh 1.2.2
NTFS for Mac 6.5 Express

IN THE MAG

Main Feature

BackupLoupe 1.8.4
Carbon Copy Cloner 3.3
CrashPlan 11.05.2009
iBackup 6.6.6
Retrospect 8.1.626.1
SuperDuper! 2.6.2
Synk Backup 6.5.3

Q&A

Burn 2.3u
LaunchBar 5.0.2
Socialite 1.0.2

Get Fresh and a whole host of other useful apps on this issue's disc.

Reviews

1Password 3.0.2
Cheetah3D 5.1.1
Espresso 1.1
Thunderbird 3.0

Shareware

MiniMail 2.0.1
Ommwriter 1.0b2
PhotoStyler 2.4
Quiet Read 1.2.2

Tutorials

MagicPrefs 1.5.0

SOFTWARE

Recommended

Archive 6.0.3
NTFS for Mac OS X 7.0.3

Top Freeware

BootChamp 1.1
DesktopLyrics 1.2.1
DiscEject 1.2
integrity 3.3
iTunesShut 4.9.9
MailRaider 0.4.6
Raw Photo Processor 4.0.1
Stash 0.65
Transmission 1.80b4
XBMC 9.11

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On your disc

Find three full programs plus a selection of widgets, tutorials, reviews and freeware

Mac
FORMAT
ISSUE 218 / March 2010

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Future Technology coverdisc

This disc has been thoroughly scanned and tested at all stages of production, but – as with any new software – we still recommend that you run a virus checker before use. We also recommend that you have an up-to-date backup of your hard disk(s) before using this disc.

Future Publishing cannot accept responsibility for any disruption, damage and/or loss of data to your data or computer system that may occur while using this disc, or the programs and data on it. We advise that you consult your network administrator before installing software on a networked Mac.

Coverdisc problems

If you are having difficulties using the *MacFormat* disc interface or its content, visit our reader support website at **www.futurenet.co.uk/support**. On this regularly updated website, you'll find solutions to numerous commonly reported problems. If, after reading these, you are still experiencing difficulties, then please email our reader support team (support@futurenet.co.uk) or phone 01225 442244 and ask for coverdisc support.

Please note that we can only provide technical support for the installation of software. Unfortunately, we cannot give in-depth help on the applications, or on your hardware or operating system. For software support-related issues, please contact the relevant product's developers. We are unable to provide serial numbers over the phone.

Please also note that Future Publishing can only provide technical support for this disc for a period of six months after this magazine's on-sale date.

Interface

- Interface requires OS X.
- Some programs may require free registration over the internet or phone.
- Some software may not be available in all territories.
- Where relevant, program values quoted are prices when sold with original packaging and manuals.

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